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F. A. MILNE, Secretary.

11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., November 3, 1902.

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LITERATURE

A History of the Peninsular War. By Charles Oman.—Vol. I. 1807-9. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THAT large class of persons who, from the age of Horace down to our own, have persistently belittled the men of the present while exalting the stature of those of a bygone time will doubtless exclaim against the presumption of any one who ventures to trespass on the domain of history over which the genius of Napier has held unchallenged sway. They will point to the lordly dimensions of his canvas, the dignity and sureness of touch with which he filled in myriads of facts, his success in portraiture, the energy of his polemic, and the industry with which he sought to get at the truth. In a sense, they are right. Napier's work is a classic. It is the greatest military history written in our language. Its strictly historical merits are very high. Napier exposed a great number of the misrepresentations that Thiers might otherwise have imposed on the world, and thus laid broad and deep the foundations of the fame of Wellington. He also wrote with a terseness and force that contrasted with the laboured and affected style of most of his predecessors; and his narrative now and again rises to heights of eloquence, as in his description of the charge of Cole's fusiliers at the battle of Albuera or of the storming of Badajoz.

And yet his work needs correction at very many points. The opening sentences contain the astonishing assertion that the conflict between France and the monarchs of Europe was essentially defensive on her part up to the Treaty of Tilsit, and turned on the question "whether aristocracy or democracy should predominate." Napier figured Napoleon as the sincere champion of democracy, unwillingly forced into war in 1803 by the selfishness or folly of the governing caste in England, and in 1805-6 by the undisguised greed of the monarchs of Austria, Russia, and Prussia. So false a reading of history

would appear incredible had we not recently seen instances of the perverse ingenuity which our party system engenders. And Napier was a thorough partisan. The perfidy of Bayonne, and the equally perfidious means by which the northern Spanish fortresses were filched away, seemed to the Whig historian only regrettable incidents in an enterprise which was mainly designed by Napoleon for the regeneration of Spain. This partiality was also extended to military affairs. Napier admired Wellington as a great leader, but in Napoleon he hailed the military genius whose judgment was never at fault. If the French failed in Spain it was because their marshals were unequal to the task of carrying out the Emperor's orders. If the Grand Army perished in 1812 it was due to "the destruction caused by the snows of Russia" (book xxi. chap. iv.).

Still more serious, perhaps, is the prejudice against the Spaniards which warped every part of Napier's work. He could never forget the bad impressions produced on him and his brother officers by Spanish unreadiness during the war; and, while pouring out bitter complaints on this topic and on the unsteadiness of the Spanish troops, he omitted to make due allowance for the difficulties that beset the patriots, or to praise them for the toughness of their resistance in spite of countless reverses. When we further remember that since Napier's day much has been done by historians, especially in Spain, in the way of editing official records, and that a vast number of military memoirs have seen the light, it will be obvious that a rich harvest awaited the investigator who could gather in this wealth of new materials.

The publication of the first volume of Mr. Oman's 'History of the Peninsular War' is therefore an event of prime importance in the historical world. He has been fortunate in having at hand in All Souls the papers of one of its Fellows, Sir Charles Vaughan, who played no small part in the diplomatic history of the war. Vaughan also collected pamphlets and reports of all kinds, and had notes made for him by his Spanish friends, so that his collection, hitherto unedited, is in itself a mine of information. The British official records have also yielded Mr. Oman several new facts of considerable importance, and his work, when completed, promises to be the first thoroughly satisfactory record of the greatest struggle in which we have been engaged in modern times.

The difference in the mental attitude of Napier and of Mr. Oman towards the Spanish troops is clearly shown in their accounts of the first important military event, the battle of Medina de Rio Seco. The older historian had so deep a contempt for the Spaniards that he vouchsafed only the briefest description of the positions separately taken up by Cuesta and Blake alongside of and in front of the town of Medina de Rio Seco; he assigned to them nearly as many guns as to Bessières, whereas they had but two-thirds of the number; and he gave little credit to the firm nucleus of trained Spanish troops who at one point seized four guns of the French Imperial Guard, and everywhere sought to cover the mob of recruits in the final rout. Mr. Oman, on the other hand, states precisely the forces of the combatants;

he makes clear, both by diagram and by verbal description, the positions occupied by Cuesta and Blake; and, while censuring the presumption of the leaders, he does full justice to the efforts of their best troops.

With regard to the affair of Baylen, we think that Mr. Oman has not pointed out with sufficient clearness the share of responsibility that must rest on Napoleon for that disastrous capitulation. His first letters in June breathed a complete confidence as to Dupont's ability with 22,000 men to march to Cadiz. Before the news of Rio Seco reached him he objected to any reinforcement being sent to Dupont, and wrote on July 13th that if that general were checked it would be of little consequence. On July 21st, after hearing of Rio Seco, he wrote that Dupont must now be reinforced, but that, even with 21,000 men, he would have eighty chances of success out of a hundred. It seems, then, that Napoleon did not consider Dupont's long halt at and near Andujar to be, what Mr. Oman terms it, "a wasted month." It was a time of forced inaction while the decisive blow was struck by Bessières at the forces of Cuesta and Blake. Dupont's tactics when he awoke to his real danger were far from sound; but it must be remembered that his task in holding his ground against the superior forces that were pressing in on him was far more complex than that of Bessières, also that the traditions of the French army forbade a retreat across the Sierra Morena. Part of the responsibility of the ultimate disaster must rest with the Emperor, who throughout underrated the strength of the resistance in Andalusia, and left his general with insufficient forces in a dangerously advanced position, and it is too sweeping to say (p. 202) that "Dupont's misfortunes were of his own creation." They can be traced to the Emperor's excess of confidence, a habit of mind which became ingrained in his subordinates in Spain.

For the most part, however, Mr. Oman's narrative is to be commended no less for the fairness of his judgments than for the accuracy of his details. There are few pages in which he does not present some fact that will be new to English readers. Incidentally, we may remark, he shows that the Maid of Saragossa was no legendary personage (as Napier half hinted, even in the later editions of his work), but that she actually rendered the service which Byron commemorated in 'Childe Harold.'

No part of this volume is of more interest and value than the admirable chapters dealing with the military geography of Spain, the condition of the French and Spanish armies, and the tactics used by British and French commanders. In dealing with the first of these topics Mr. Oman might have insisted on the supreme difficulty of keeping open communications through the Pyrenees and the long stretches of rugged country further south—difficulties that have ultimately foiled every attempt, from the time of the West Goths to that of Napoleon, to govern Spain from beyond the great barrier. He should also have explained more clearly the enormous advantage conferred on Spain by alliance with the chief Sea Power. Even when the allied

armies were driven back to the furthest points of the Peninsula their base was as sure as ever, while the French lines of communication became the more fragile the more they were prolonged. It was Wellington's perception of this fact that saved Spain and Europe in 1810.

It is when we come to consider wider questions of policy that we find Mr. Oman's work occasionally defective. He opens this volume with the rather strained suggestion that Napoleon's conquest of the Peninsula was ultimately due to his determination to be the founder of a new Holy Roman Empire, and refers in support of this thesis to Napoleon's many references to Charlemagne in the course of the year 1806. But surely these comparisons were made in order to impress the Germans in favour of that novel experiment, the Confederation of the Rhine, as well as the Dutch and Italians, for whom other changes were pending. In Spain the name of Charlemagne conjured up no visions of beneficent rule, but only of claims to the North-East which ended in disaster. Further, there is no proof that Napoleon then had any design on Spain, except that of compelling her to hand over the Balearic Isles to the dethroned Bourbons of Naples. This formed part of his scheme of a general pacification which should lead up to French predominance in the Mediterranean, especially in the Levant. Far from having "an impending war with Prussia on his hands," he seems to have had no notion before September 3rd, 1806, that Russia would renew the war, probably with the aid of Prussia. It was the outbreak of war a few weeks later which tempted Godoy to launch that defiant proclamation which he and his royal master looked on as a timely revenge for Napoleon's project of the Balearic-Sicilian exchange. Mr. Oman writes (p. 6) as if that exchange had been first mooted at Tilsit; but it figured largely in the negotiations held at Paris in the summer of 1806, and there is positive proof that the Court of Madrid knew of it.

He also, we think, underrates the importance of the Continental System as another cause leading up to Napoleon's intervention; he rightly attributes his design on Portugal to the policy of Tilsit; but the gist of that policy was the enforcement of the Continental System on neutrals and the seizure, when possible, of their navies. Napoleon's anxiety to effect the capture of the Portuguese navy was the reason why he urged Junot to make all possible haste to reach Lisbon. On October 31st he wrote to him that the English were leaving Copenhagen and he must not let himself be foisted at Lisbon; and again, on November 8th, that all the Copenhagen forces had reached England and that his (Junot's) march "étais beaucoup trop lente." Mr. Oman suggests that it was the news of the events in Madrid that led Napoleon to hurry Junot on, but there is no suggestion to this effect in the 'Correspondence.' Neither is it correct to say (p. 33) that Napoleon had "scared away" the Prince Regent of Portugal to Brazil; he took every precaution to render any such event impossible, and viewed its accomplishment as a misfortune, while Great Britain brought persistent pressure to bear on the Court of

Lisbon in the contrary sense. Mr. Oman should also have added (p. 15) that the plan of a Franco-Spanish partition of Portugal had been seriously discussed in 1801. The British Parliamentary Papers presented on February 22nd, 1808, also show that in August, 1806, the Earl of St. Vincent received orders from Viscount Howick to sail to Lisbon so as to prevent the seizure of the Portuguese fleet by Napoleon, an event that then seemed imminent. Mr. Oman might also have clinched his proof (p. 10) that Napoleon never intended to keep the terms of the Treaty of Fontainebleau (October 27th, 1807) by quoting the decisive words in his letter of October 31st, 1807, to Junot:—

"Je vous ai déjà fait connaître qu'en vous autorisant à entrer comme auxiliaire, c'était pour que vous puissiez vous rendre maître de la flotte, mais que mon parti était décidément pris de m'emparer du Portugal."

After that, there is no need to cite the evidence of the spurious Fouché memoirs.

We also doubt the justice of the writer's conclusions as to the so-called Convention of Cintra. It is true that he does not endorse Napier's verdict as to "the ignorant and ridiculous vehemence of [English] public opinion" against that Convention; but after a not very convincing discussion of its terms he concludes that, while it presented "grave political faults" (chiefly relating to the Portuguese authorities), yet "its military advantages entirely outweighed those which might have been secured by a prolongation of hostilities." But his own narrative clearly shows that Junot's forces had no chance of escaping from Portugal; that they might even have been cut off from Lisbon by vigorous moves of our army; and that the French themselves anticipated an unconditional surrender, only raising their demands when they saw the irresolution of Dalrymple. And what advantages were gained? Chiefly, the recovery of Lisbon in peace and quietness, undamaged by the desperate defence which Junot threatened; the recovery of Elvas and Almeida in a similar state; and (this Mr. Oman does not mention) the opportunity of bringing the British fleet into the Tagus without opposition.

In answer, we may say that Junot should not have been allowed to fall back on Lisbon, and that, even if he had done so, a rising of the Portuguese populace would probably have made Lisbon a death-trap for the defeated army; that Elvas, Almeida, and a few other places were already beleaguered and their garrisons had no chance of escape; and that the advance of our troops must have speedily reduced the forts near the mouth of the Tagus. As it was, by signing the Convention our commanders released 25,000 seasoned French troops, not even stipulating that they were not to serve in the Peninsular War; they enabled the French to carry away most of their plunder; and they lowered British prestige by showing that our commanders did not know how to profit by a victory. To us it seems that the Convention can be justified only on the supposition that Dalrymple and Burrard were wholly incompetent to make any forward move, even when Wellesley was at hand to advise them.

We have little space in which to follow Mr. Oman through the closing chapters, in

which he describes the campaign of Sir John Moore. His narrative here is the best balanced that we have, for that of Napier shows an obvious bias against the British Ministry, against the Spaniards, and in favour of that general. Of Moore's resolve (November 28th, 1808) to retreat from Salamanca Napier wrote: "There was now no room for hesitation in any mind capable of reasoning, and Sir John Moore resolved to fall back on Portugal." Mr. Oman asserts (p. 509) that it "was clearly wrong," and we agree with him. Moore's dispatch of November 26th shows that the military situation was bad, but not desperate; that he was not in touch with the Spanish armies; and that sleeplessness led him to worry about details when he might have been arranging with Romana for a move which would have lightened the pressure on Central Spain. Such a move was begun on December 5th, but then it was too late to save Madrid. Mr. Oman expresses surprise at the slowness with which news of Moore's move reached Napoleon at Madrid; but the 'Correspondence' (No. 14,604) shows that it must have been due to the capture of French couriers, which so often marred their plans.

The question whether, during the final retreat to Corunna, a stand could with advantage have been made in the mountains behind Astorga is temperately discussed. It is, however, incorrect (p. 554) to speak of Moore's "summary rejection" of Romana's proposal to that effect. Writing to him from Benavente on December 27th, Moore said:—

"I shall continue my movement on Astorga. It is there, or behind it, we should fight a battle, if at all.....My opinion is that a battle is the game of Buonaparte, not ours. We should, if followed, take defensive positions in the mountains, where his cavalry can be of no use to him."

On the next day he wrote to Castlereagh:—

"The country about Astorga offers no advantage to an inferior army; I shall, therefore, not stop there longer than to secure the stores and shall retreat to Villafranca, where, I understand, there is a position. But, if the French pursue, I must hasten to the coast."

Evidently it was the accumulation of difficulties and risks that decided Moore to hurry on to Corunna.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Oman has not bestowed on the literary execution of his work the same care that appears in his mastery of all available facts and his painstaking recital of the essential details. It would appear that he is afflicted by the nervous apprehension that often haunts academic abodes of making any approach to "fine writing," a fear which sometimes leads to the greater sin of dulness. To avoid anything that savours of emotion in dealing with events so thrilling as the declaration of war by Asturias against Napoleon, the siege of Saragossa, and other episodes of the Spanish rising is surely an affectation almost as bad as that of straining after "fine writing." We could wish that Mr. Oman had "let himself go" as he handled these and similar topics. And we trust that in future editions of his work he will remove harsh or awkward expressions like the following: "Combined it was believed that they would be too much for

Napoleon" (p. 4); the queen was "as besotted on her favourite as ever" (p. 16); "the true front door of the kingdom" (p. 73); "Wellesley was thinking of nothing less than of retreat" (p. 249); "[It] gave much endless occasion for disputes" (p. 273, doubtless a misprint); "none of these facts were enough to justify Moore in washing his hands of the whole business" (p. 507). The plans of battle and sketch maps of districts are admirable, but the index might with advantage have been extended, especially in respect to names of places, several of which are missing. We note that Mr. Oman has made little use of the memoirs of Miot de Melito, which throw some light on the Court of King Joseph and on the state of public opinion at Madrid.

After all, these are very slight defects, but we call attention to them in the hope that they may be avoided in the other volumes of this most important work.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons. By T. H. S. Escott. 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THERE are three drawbacks to Mr. Escott's interesting work, but they are far indeed from counterbalancing its merits. The title rather suggests a modern book of the usual type about the House of Commons of to-day, whereas the volumes are almost entirely about the House of Commons of the past, and chiefly about the House of Commons of the very distant past. There is no index. The concluding pages, dealing with the life of the House of Commons in the nineteenth century, are hurried and much less good than the excellent main part of the volumes. Having said this, we repeat that out of the nearly 700 pages all but a very few at the end are almost as good as possible. Mr. Escott, who bears, if we mistake not, one of the very earliest of Parliamentary surnames, shows himself here as a most diligent student of Parliamentary history, and, on the whole, both a gay and a sound guide. We hesitate to quote for a weekly journal from the fourth page of the book, as our daily contemporaries, being in a greater hurry, may give more attention to the early pages than to the book as a whole, and are almost certain to fall upon the passage; but it is so good that we cite it, as showing the tone in which Mr. Escott writes of the assembly. King Charles II. said of the House of Commons that it was as good as a play. A distinguished Indian administrator, still living, called it "a strange wild beast." Mr. Escott runs the two statements together in his remarks:—

"That Assembly has often been said to possess collectively a wisdom greater than that of its wisest member. It has also a collective life of the most distinctive and often most picturesque kind, apart from the individual existence whereof it is the sum. At moments of repose this mass of parliamentary units suggests some natural monster peacefully stretched out at full length under a sunny sky. Presently angry sounds are heard; the heavens become overcast, the huge form throughout its whole length quivers with emotions of excitement or disapproval. Gradually, or in an instant, its bristles, as it were, stand erect; it lashes out with its whole frame. The newspapers next

morning will publish graphic accounts of the latest scene or scandal at St. Stephen's. The rapidity with which these transformations from decorous quiet to unseemly tumult are effected; the sudden change in the personal relations of parliamentary associates involved in the uproar, are among the most dramatic elements of human interest possessed by the House of Commons as one of those theatres on whose stage the human comedy is enacted."

Having told our readers how highly we can recommend Mr. Escott's book, we proceed to name a few points on which we are inclined to differ from him. He perhaps slightly contradicts himself in a difficult matter where he deals with the relations of Queen Elizabeth and the Puritans. He tells us that the queen never formally admitted the right of the House to legislate for the Church. Of course, many passages can be quoted in justification of that view, yet on the whole we doubt if it is the true one. The queen did not want the House to legislate, and would have preferred the bishops to arrange the matter with herself on the basis of absolute separation from Rome, but with as complete adherence as her public would admit to the doctrine and the ritual of the Western Church. The queen, however, was perfectly aware that the Puritans were too strong in her early Parliaments to make this possible, and she therefore promoted meetings under her own chairmanship between the Puritan committees of the House and the bishops, and may be said to have "engineered" a Parliamentary compromise. Mr. Escott speaks of the Puritans as forming a minority late in the reign, whereas the more important fact in this connexion is that in questions of doctrine and Church discipline they formed a majority in the early part of the reign. He calls them Nonconformists, but this they stoutly denied, and regarded themselves as the only sound Churchmen in the country. The whole of the early Elizabethan Puritan leaders were members of the Church of England, and, to the best of their belief, loyal members. They were, indeed, just as loyal as the late Bishop of Liverpool, or any other Evangelical Churchmen of later times. In the Long Parliament the friends and the children and the grandchildren of the Elizabethan Puritans became Dissenters: some of them Congregationalists (or "Independents," as the phrase went), some of them Presbyterians, some of them fanatical Fifth Monarchy men; but that was altogether a later movement, and in the early Parliaments of Elizabeth they had partly captured the Church; while in the later Parliaments of Elizabeth they were trying, having lost it, to recapture it.

When Mr. Escott comes to discuss the Puritan leaders man by man he also occasionally goes wrong. He calls Peter Wentworth, without authority so far as we know, a native of Cornwall, whereas he was one of the Essex Wentworths, whose father removed to Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, for the family property lay in both counties. Mr. Escott says that Paul and Peter both sat for West of England, probably for Cornish constituencies. Now we know the constituencies for which the two brothers at various times sat, and these included the borough of Buckingham, the borough of Northampton, and others which

had nothing to do with Cornwall. The adoption of Peter at one time as a Parliamentary candidate for a Cornish seat, and of other members of the family for other seats in Cornwall, had, we believe, to do with the fact of their near relationship to Walsingham, who probably brought them into Parliament thinking they would support the queen more closely than they did. Moreover, although Peter Wentworth's wife died in the Tower, and he died or all but died there, after having spent the greater portion of his Parliamentary life in prison, he and Elizabeth understood one another, and she was able to count upon the Wentworths in her really serious struggles with the Spanish Catholics, and, indeed, used them, at the time of her fiercest personal contentions with them, as the gaolers of the Duke of Norfolk and others of her personal foes. Mr. Escott suggests a Jewish origin for the Wentworths, for which there is no authority. Their FitzSymon grandmother was of Norman race. We do not know what are Mr. Escott's views on descent, for he describes the Greys as being "of pure Norman descent." Most people in England have some intermixture of what we call Norman blood—that is, descent from some of those French "Jameson raiders" who came over with the Conqueror; but no Englishman has more than a small intermixture of such blood, as every Norman family, without exception, rapidly intermingled with Saxons, Danes, and Welsh, not to speak of later admixture with every race represented in these isles. We are inclined to believe, too, that Mr. Escott is wrong as to Lord Howard, of Armada fame, having been a member of the old faith, unable to accept that amount of reformation which was represented by Elizabethan laws. But the matter has been recently so fully discussed that we allude only to the controversy, without desiring to revive it.

When we come to later times we think that Mr. Escott does Wilkes less than justice, especially when he likens him to Dr. Kenealy; but this again is an old controversy which has raged in the *Athenæum* in former days, and which we have no intention to reopen. In every volume which contains anecdote every admirer of many stories will find some one of them, as he thinks, spoilt, or at least a little damaged. Wraxall, for example, explains differently from Mr. Escott how Lord North took off the wig of one of his colleagues, and, as Wraxall saw the incident, his version is probably more accurate, as well as better. The wig went out on the point of Lord North's sword, a fact which is omitted from Mr. Escott's statement, which becomes in consequence one truly puzzling to his readers. When Mr. Escott describes Rigby as sitting with the Opposition, though he always spoke with the Government, he likens him in this respect to Mr. Chamberlain in 1886; but a nearer parallel would be one with the Irish in 1886, who sat with the Tory Opposition, but spoke for Gladstone's administration. We doubt whether the table in the tea-room of the House of Commons is in fact that of the old House of Commons across which Pitt and Fox had thundered, but it is always shown as such, and the tradition is too venerable

to be rudely dispelled, or for us to rebuke Mr. Escott for following it.

Mr. Escott's title reminds us of the strange fact, which we have never seen mentioned, that the members of the House are called "Gentlemen" once a day, but only once a day, by the officials. The principal cries of the day by the doorkeeper are "Mr. Speaker," "Speaker," "Mr. Speaker at Prayers," "Prayers are over, Gentlemen," "Speaker in the Chair," "Division," "Who goes home?" These, which are of daily occurrence, and the more rare "Black Rod," are all of them without the word "Gentlemen," except the one which we have specified. Mr. Escott, of course, takes his title not from the doorkeeper, but from the King, who in the opening of Parliament turns from the general considerations to those specially affecting the House of Commons with the words which stand at the head of Mr. Escott's book.

We warmly commend two most entertaining volumes which will not only amuse, but also instruct most readers.

The Book of Cerne. By Dom A. B. Kuypers. (Cambridge, University Press.)

One of the most valuable ecclesiastical manuscripts of the University Library, Cambridge, is that which has long been known as 'The Book of Cerne.' The late Henry Bradshaw was much interested in it, and when discussing liturgical points with his friends expressed his intention on several occasions of editing it. He mentioned the project in a letter to the writer of this notice as long ago as 1876. It would not be possible to award higher praise to this volume than to say that Mr. Bradshaw would have been, on the whole, delighted with its appearance, and with the scholarly way in which it has been edited by Dom Kuypers.

It is right that the customary title, 'Book of Cerne,' should be retained, yet well to remember that it had no connexion with the important and interesting Benedictine abbey of that name in Dorsetshire until a late stage in its history. By what accident it found its way there cannot now be ascertained. The true title of the early manuscript is 'The Prayer Book of Æthelwold the Bishop.' It obtained its usual name from the circumstance of having had bound up with it twenty-six leaves of copies of charters pertaining to Cerne Abbey, in handwritings that vary from the twelfth century to the fourteenth. The actual book of Æthelwold consists of ninety-nine leaves, written apparently by the same scribe throughout. According to Mr. Bradshaw's published catalogue of the Cambridge MSS., "the handwriting is Anglo-Saxon of the eighth or ninth century, with erasures and corrections of the twelfth, and side-notes of the fourteenth." A critical examination of the text causes Dom Kuypers to conclude that the book was written in the first half of the ninth century. There were nine Anglo-Saxon bishops between 721 and 1013 who bore variants of the name Æthelwold; the decision, however, of the best scholars strikes out those Æthelwolds whose episcopates fell within the tenth and eleventh centuries. Prof. Skeat—and his opinion is supported by Mr. Warner—considers that there is no doubt that the

dialect in which the Saxon fragment prefixed to this prayer book is written is Mercian or Old Midland. The only bishop of the name whose diocese lay in Mercia was Æthelwold, or Ethelwald, who was consecrated Bishop of Lichfield in 818 and died in 830. If, then, the Bishop Æthelwold of this MS. was living when it was written, it follows that he must be identified with the Lichfield bishop who was the twelfth successor of St. Chad, and the date of the book is confined to a period of about twelve years. This fixing of the date will be of great value to philologists as well as palaeographers.

The most interesting part, however, of this critical study is that which deals with the source of these prayers; for though they were written in Mercia, and for the use of a bishop of that great central see, there is nothing in their character that suggests a Mercian origin:—

"Two great currents of influence, two distinct spirits, Irish and Roman, have been recognised: spirits acting and reacting upon each other, working at times singly and then again together, influencing the composition of these prayers. Once recognised, these influences are traceable through the whole range of the strictly devotional literature of the period..... As the influence which has been called Irish is in them [the Book of Cerne] the more pronounced, it would seem to indicate that the prayers which it contains were composed in a place where and at a time when the spirit of the Irish monks was predominant."

The book is not liturgical in the true sense of the word, for it is evidently intended throughout for private devotion. In many places the prayers are of litanic character and of great minuteness. The adjurations are not only by various mysteries in our Lord's life, but also by different members of His body; the head, eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, tongue, and lips are all separately named and made the basis of special supplication. The same is to be noted with regard to the petitions. "There is," as Dom Kuypers rightly expresses it, "a pious abandon that surrenders itself to an overpowering consciousness of guilt and seems to lose the sense of proportion. The petitioner, for example, prays for mercy on his most unclean members, on his criminal head, on his polluted eyes, on his most unworthy ears and nostrils, on his wicked mouth, on his deceitful tongue, and on his unrighteous lips."

In another place the petitioner invokes holy Enoch, Noah, and the principal saints of the Old Law, and mentions by name the twelve minor prophets as well as the twelve apostles and all holy martyrs. The vices he prays to be delivered from and the virtues to which he hopes to attain are also set forth with singular minuteness. There is also a paraphrase of the celebrated "Lorica of St. Patrick." The exuberant products of the devout Celtic mind that also found expression in the extraordinary severities of the Irish monks abound in this MS.; and yet side by side with them is occasionally found an utterance of a much simpler and more restrained spirit, such as the *Sancta Confessio* of this book, which has a striking resemblance to the quiet tone of the *Apologia Sacerdotis* of the early Gallican missals.

In addition to the prayers and hymns, this book contains selected portions of the Passion, according to the four Evangelists,

and apocryphal citations as to the descent into hell. The editing has apparently been done with the most minute care, and reflects much credit on Dom Kuypers. Another very valuable feature of this volume, which cannot fail to be appreciated by every liturgical student, is the 'Note' (extending to fifty closely printed quarto pages) contributed by Mr. Edmund Bishop, in which he investigates, after a thorough and scholarly fashion, the books that were used by the original composers of these remarkable Cerne prayers.

The illuminations and drawings of 'The Book of Cerne' form so notable a feature that it seems a pity that the Syndics of the University Press could not have been a little more generous in the matter of illustration. Prefixed to each Gospel of the Passion is a full-page illumination of the evangelist, with his symbol. A photographic reproduction of the figure of St. Luke forms the frontispiece of this volume, and is the only one of the four given. Westwood's work on Anglo-Saxon illumination has coloured facsimiles of the figures of St. Matthew and St. John from this MS.; that of St. Mark has never been printed.

JEANNE D'ARC.

La Vraie Jeanne d'Arc. Par J. B. J. Ayroles, S.J. Vol. III. (Paris, Gaume.)

La Vierge Guerrière. By the same author. (Paris, Rondelet.)

L'Université de Paris au Temps de Jeanne d'Arc. (Same author and publisher.)

Jeanne d'Arc. Edited, from the Procès, by T. Douglas Murray. (Heinemann.)

To the names of recent books on the Maid of Orleans which head this notice we might add three brochures, of which two deal with the Regent Bedford and Jeanne d'Arc, and one with Jeanne as a prisoner at Arras. The first two are from *La Bonne Presse*, Paris, and "the good press" does not justify its name, for slips in printing English and Latin abound. Probably other new French works on the Maid have escaped us. There is a public of "Pucellistes" which devours these books, but alas for the general public! In a new English novel by a well-known female hand we read that Jeanne, in her youth, lived at Arc! Hence, no doubt, her surname. The public is apt to treat the Maid as a myth, more or less, in spite of historians. Of these the most copious, complete, and learned is Father J. B. J. Ayroles. His volume 'La Libératrice' (1897) contains over 680 pages. Herein he publishes, with critical remarks, not only the French and the Burgundian, and brief contemporary English texts on the Maid, but also the curious correspondence of Giustiniani, from Bruges, with Venice. On the whole, he reckons that a fourth or a third of new documents has been added in his volumes to those given by Quicherat (1841-9). In his 'Vierge Guerrière' (1898) Father Ayroles supplies as frontispiece a likeness of Jeanne after a fifteenth-century miniature. She is in full armour, dark, with fine features, the hair apparently cut *en ronde*, in military fashion (as she wore it), and though she never sat for her portrait this is, we think, a more probable and pleasing likeness, more like the picture

in words by the *greffier* of Rochelle, than the sixteenth-century effigies with long, floating, yellow hair. In this volume Father Ayroles traces the Maid's military career in her answers during her trial. He has no difficulty in defending the honesty, truth, and loyalty of her responses, when men endeavoured so long to entangle her in her words. Her letter to the Hussites is recognized as authentic. It is not in the modern spirit of toleration; but of the Hussites the Maid probably knew only the practical side: they were burning churches, and murdering Catholics. That Jeanne was betrayed at Compiègne by Flavy, commandant of the town, we see no proof, though Father Ayroles thinks it probable. In 1429 she had said that she dreaded nothing but treachery, and there is fairly respectable evidence that at Compiègne she said that she was to be sold and put to death. Flavy, again, was a ruffian; it seems that he killed the father and mother of his wife, and that she, being in love with another man, induced a barber to cut Flavy's throat and then smothered him under cushions! The authority for all this is rather prejudiced, and whatever else he did Flavy made a splendid defence at Compiègne. The story of his shutting the gates on the Maid for a bribe, though nearly contemporary, does not ring true. If open to a bribe, why did he not sell the town? The cry "Nous sommes trahis" is much more often uttered than justified. In another passage (pp. 118-36) Father Ayroles shatters the theory (upheld by Mr. Douglas Murray) that the Pucelle regarded her mission as ended when her king was crowned at Rheims. Her military mission ended only with her capture, of which her voices warned her in the April of 1430. And with that warning—true for her, however we try to explain it—ringing daily in her ears, she rode out of Compiègne and charged the Anglo-Burgundian host. She knew not of the day and hour of destiny, but she risked her doom every day. History does not speak of nobler courage.

We cannot follow Father Ayroles in full detail. We regret his vivacious replies to Quicherat and Siméon Luce, who could not believe exactly as he believes. Both authors were devoted to the Maid's fame, and Quicherat deliberately, we may say solemnly, avows the inexplicable, the supernormal element in her inspiration. Many of the *libres penseurs* are unfair on this point: they shuffle, evade, suppress, excuse, and never really face the question. Our own reply to it would have to be couched in terms probably unfamiliar to Father Ayroles, and (though really coincident in essentials with his belief) not likely to be accepted by him. The learned Father himself avers that the day of certain scepticisms, of certain cock-certainities, is passing. He might let it pass with Michelet, and Vallet, and Fabre, and others on whom he does justice, and might recognize the vast merits of Quicherat as a supporter of the cause of historical truth without contemning him because his faith was but as a grain of mustard seed. It really required in Quicherat some moral courage to go so far as he deliberately did.

In the third of his volumes here considered, 'L'Université de Paris au Temps

de Jeanne d'Arc,' Father Ayroles attacks and routs with great slaughter the right wing of his enemies, *les intellectuels*. Michelet, Voltaire, Fabre, Quicherat in modern times, and the leaders of the University of Paris in the Middle Ages, were all *des intellectuels*, and Father Ayroles thinks no more highly of them than the lady of pleasure thought of Théophile Gautier when she styled him *un cérébral*. Now we cannot honestly say that we regard the human intellect as actually a bad thing in itself, or that we esteem a man more highly in proportion to his stupidity; but Father Ayroles distrusts the University of Paris exactly as John Knox distrusted and disliked that of St. Andrews. Mr. Knox was determined that the Scottish universities should have no hand in the affairs of the Kirk, and Father Ayroles proves that the University of Paris took infinitely too much upon itself in the affairs of the Church. Theirs was what Poe calls "the mad pride of intellectuality." A Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Popes was greatly needed in the fifteenth century. The university was prominent and potent (1431) in the Council of Basel, and treated Popes much as the General Assembly, about 1580-90, treated bishops. The university had accepted the Antipope Benedict XIII., as did St. Andrews, and then, like St. Andrews, turned and rent him with circumstances of bad taste. The year 1430 was occupied by the University of Paris in preparing to attack the Pope at Basel and Jeanne at Rouen. The really terrible foe of Jeanne, says Father Ayroles—and he proves his point—was the University of Paris, which was equally the foe of the Pope and the Church. This comes of being intellectual! The university had long been Anglophilic; now if Jeanne had a divine anti-English mission the Anglophilic university must have been in the wrong. This was unendurable, so Jeanne must be condemned as impious, heretic, possessed. Worse than Bedford, worse than Cauchon, were *les intellectuels*, with their "Iscariot" Loyseleur, and their advocate of the theory of Jeanne's hysteria, Beaupère. He, by the way, stood to his guns even when the Maid was rehabilitated; he seems to have been honest.

This thesis, that the schismatic university, not the Church, was guilty of the blood of the Maid, Father Ayroles defends, partly against the very faint apologies of the recent editors of the Cartulary. We entirely agree with the arguments he produces. Cauchon and the university tried, with every circumstance of cruel injustice, the case of Jeanne, which had already been heard at Poitiers by Cauchon's metropolitan and other prelates and theologians. Jeanne's attitude towards the Church, her appeals to the Pope, seem perfectly orthodox; the Church whose jurisdiction she refused was "the Kirk malignant," a packed assembly of her political and personal enemies. "The Pope was too far off" was their reply to the appeal of Jeanne, and the editors of the Cartulary frankly condemn this insolent tyranny. Some of the "intellectuals" who are friends of the Maid have represented her as a premature Protestant and advocate of private judgment. So the university declared that she was,

but Father Ayroles disproves the praise of modern, the blame of mediæval "intellectuals."

If Mr. Douglas Murray, the editor of 'Jeanne d'Arc' (the anonymous translation of the two 'Procès'), is also the author of the introduction and the notes, he may be congratulated on their sobriety of tone and avoidance of disputable matter. The two 'Trials,' as printed by Quicherat, are, of course, familiar to students. The "general reader" shuns documents as he would the devil, but he has only himself to blame if he avoids this English version of papers which contain all that is really essential about the noblest and most wonderful of her sex. For the wisdom of the replies of this ignorant girl of nineteen, who could neither read nor write, to her tormentors it is difficult to find a parallel. The irrepressible gaiety of her young courage, breaking now and again through the cloud of her long and cruel agony, is more pathetic than anything "that is written in any book." We can only say *Tolle, Lege*, to the general reader. Here are the acts and words of the Maid, authentically recorded by her murderers. Here are the testimonies of those who knew her in childhood, at Poitiers, at Court, and feast and battle, and in her dungeon, and at the stake. They unanimously prove her to have been, as young Laval wrote to his mother, "a thing all divine," a miracle of sweetness, courtesy, kindness, courage, and genius. She came to her own, and her own received her not. The illustrations of this book are good and useful.

Two tracts of the Abbé Debout deal with Bedford's letter to Henry VI., falsely dated by Rymer in 1428. The learned Abbé came to London to look for the original MS. and he could not find it. He inferred that Rymer had taken it, uncritically, from some secondary source. Later, in the *Athenæum* (as an illiterate hero of Mr. Stevenson's calls the *Athenæum*, the Abbé imitating his error), Mr. J. M. Stone wrote that he had found the text printed fully in 'Rotuli Parliamentorum,' and said Mr. Stone, "the fragment is where Rymer, Topham, and Astle said it was." Rymer absurdly misdated a dateless document, apparently, as the Abbé proves, of 1433-4. Rymer's blunder was too enormous to be conscious, but the Abbé calls it "part of the English campaign of injustice," and so forth. He honourably acknowledges that England is no longer unjust to the Maid, but, *enfin*, Rymer made a gross mistake, and there is no more to be said. We do not know whether "the English people" in 1429 thought Jeanne a sorceress or not. Bedford says that from the hand of God a great disaster fell on the English, to punish their superstitious fear of a disciple and "lyme" of the Fiend—the Maid. The Abbé regards Bedford as a kind of Balaam, blessing where he came to curse. This is obviously a false rendering of Bedford's words, but he acknowledges that Jeanne's action was, under the wrath of Heaven against English superstition, the saving of France.

NEW NOVELS.

The Head of the Household. By Thomas Cobb. (Chapman & Hall.)

AMONG the troops of more or less readable novels which are continually presenting themselves and making their appeal to the public, 'The Head of the Household' may claim a respectable, though not a distinguished place. It is a somewhat colourless performance, and has nothing striking to show either as regards characterization or plot, in which it follows the methods of the matrimonial novel of older days. There is the familiar figure of the man between two maids, the right one of whom he finds himself unable to marry, and this is opposed by the equally familiar maid between two men. A little mild intriguing in conjunction with the natural course of events causes some agreeable and not uninteresting shuffling of suitors. The book is written throughout in a quiet key, and will not strain the reader's attention; it is, however, a capable piece of work in its own way, kept well within its modest bounds, and will serve to pass an idle hour pleasantly enough. A line of Emerson is incorrectly quoted by the heroine.

The Traitors. By E. Phillips Oppenheim. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

THERE is something eminently satisfactory about Mr. Oppenheim as a novelist, for he knows exactly what sort of a story he has to tell and he knows how to tell it. He has at his command an abundance of fine sensational matter, and as he uses it with a strict and skilful regard for the best entertainment of his readers his romances are usually effective. It is hardly an exaggeration to say of 'The Traitors' that its interest begins on the first page and continues to the last. The plot is ingenious and well managed, the movement of the story is admirably swift and smooth, and the characters, though by no means deep or complicated, are at all events exceedingly vivacious. The tale is pseudo-historical, and thus obtains that glamour which hangs about great events and high personages of uncertain identity. Its scene of action is Theos—a country which, we suspect, is situated somewhere in the neighbourhood of Ruritania—and what with a revolution, the recall of an exiled king, a war with Turkey, and various political intrigues of a dramatic nature, the reader's excitement is kept on the stretch to the very end.

The Mystery of John Peppercorn. By Tom Gallon. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THAT we are not all very modern is demonstrated by the success of an author like Mr. Gallon, who we believe has found a considerable circle of readers for a series of tolerable imitations of stories of a type that was fashionable forty or fifty years ago. In the present, as in his previous books, the author does not concern himself at all with the people or problems of real life. His characters are put forward as contemporaries, but they and their doings belong not to the life, but to the fiction, of the mid-Victorian period. Challenged with regard to the absolute unreality of his work, Mr. Gallon might reply that he was "taking

tired people to the Islands of the Blest." We can but hope that it may be so. Such books will certainly never have the effect of taking tired reviewers in any such delightful direction, or even one step beyond the working routine of their lives. The English in the present book is less unsound than that of some of its predecessors, but the whole thing hardly claims the exercise of literary criticism.

Backsheesh. By Roma White. (Cassell & Co.)

The author has here essayed a difficult task, and, all things considered, has succeeded. To have some little knowledge of the East and considerable genuine feeling for the East, and to make use of both without greatly offending either in the production of a more or less sensational story of the sort which appeals to the supporters of circulating libraries—a story which, despite its Oriental colouring, must remain throughout "quite English," and ring familiarly in the ears of villa residents "at home"—is to achieve something of a triumph. The author of 'Backsheesh' has done this, and, so far, is to be congratulated. A quotation from Lord Milner fronts one upon the title-page and gives the keynote of the book:—

"Egypt is still, like the Egypt of Herodotus, the chosen home of what is strange and unexampled and paradoxical.....This genius for eccentricity is something that no change can exorcise. Paradox seems rooted in the soil.....

Indeed, it is one of the pitfalls of the Egyptian administrator, that serious things constantly wear such comic aspects. He is so frequently reminded of Offenbach, that it is difficult for him to realise that he is not playing in *Opéra Bouffe*."

In 'Backsheesh' the author seems bent upon convincing us that all Europeans in Egypt live and have their being in *opéra bouffe*, with occasional excursions into the realms of transpontine melodrama. A young English official, stationed on the edge of the desert, gives way to an impulse born of boredom and loneliness. The fact that he was stationed within an hour or so of Cairo makes his loneliness less convincing, his demands upon our sympathy somewhat too extravagant. He "marries" a Circassian girl born in slavery, according to a loose interpretation of Muslim rites, and upon the understanding that three words from him, spoken in the presence of a witness, will dissolve the tie at any time. Then comes the inevitable period at which our young Englishman ardently desires a "clean sheet" to lay before a girl of his own race, with his heart and fortune. And here Nemesis, in Surrey-side guise, and with much romantic mystification, steps in to serve the exigencies of fiction, and to lead up to a final tableau which is the poorest thing in the book. As has been indicated, the author shows some little knowledge of and considerable feeling for the East. The knowledge is, perhaps inevitably, a good deal more superficial than the feeling. There is some absurd pseudo-Arabic phraseology in the book, and some of the author's deductions regarding certain Mohammedan practices and customs are the deductions of the British tourist, unenlightened. But the story is not one in which such faults need be regarded very seriously.

The Work of Oliver Byrd. By Adeline Sergeant. (Nisbet & Co.)

In this pathetic record of the loves and hates of literary folk the clever author furnishes an excellent example of the variety to be included under one type. She cleaves loyally to her pair of contrasted heroines, one handsome, strong-minded (in the tolerable sense of the term), and well-to-do, the other pretty, kittenish, and impecunious; but this time both the ladies are addicted to the production of acceptable copy, and are for some inexplicable reason attracted by the same objectionable editor. The kitten is a genius, and at times evinces a strain of the wild-cat temperament. The action comprises several "strong situations," and the dialogue is lively. Even the views on women's writings—such as "a man has not so fine a touch," "there is a shy, elusive, exquisite feeling here and there which you will never find in a man"—could not have been omitted without detriment to the work as a whole. There is, however, on p. 54 an "appreciation" of George Eliot which seems out of place. We do not altogether like the specimen of a refined and cultivated girl presented here. We cannot imagine that Eleanor Denbigh would have borrowed 5,000*l.* from her enamoured cousin, Lord Westover, had she not been driven to it by the exigencies of the plot.

The Man of the Hour. By Sir Wm. Magnay. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

The principal figure of this tale would dwarf the personality even of a Cecil Rhodes. He is one of the wealthiest men in England, whom his private secretary regards as "a man of surpassing power and intellect," a patriot who gives a battleship to the nation, and by his political attitude saves the country and a "weak, unready Government," under whom "muddle and vacillation were the order of the day"—obviously meant for the present Government in the throes of a future crisis spoken of as already past. He has a son who has won the V.C., a charming daughter, an alias, no public antecedents, but a private past on which the plot hinges. Eventually a grave scandal seems likely to emerge, so the Government, for once acting with promptitude and decision, send a messenger to request their benefactor to commit suicide, the Marquis of Sarsfield, the Prime Minister, assenting to the suggested message by expressive silence. Yet we are led to believe that the Government could have got the whole business hushed up had the charming daughter accepted the messenger, a very evil-minded peer. Surely Sir William Magnay exaggerates both the villainy and the power with which it is possible to credit a Cabinet. He has produced a mixture of the cheap shocker, the political romance, and the society novel; yet the correctness of the style, the occasional neatness of phraseology, and some touches of humour make the result of the combination entertaining.

A Daughter of the Sea. By Amy Le Feuvre. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

THE RESCUE of tempest-tossed sailors from the perils of ocean first, and secondly from the assaults of Cornish wreckers, was the

favourite occupation of "a daughter of the sea." To this end she and four kindred souls had secretly constructed a lifeboat, which they themselves manned on stormy nights, carefully concealing their identity even from those whom they succoured. This part of the book, though wildly improbable, is not without a certain charm; but nothing can be more commonplace and hackneyed than the remainder. For the heroine of these adventures, after the approved fashion of married ladies in fiction, sees fit to conceal them from her husband, and hence, of course, arise heartrending misunderstandings, resulting at last in the inevitable reconciliation and happiness. The characterization is weak, and only a spasmodic effort is made to reproduce the language and customs of a bygone generation.

La Maison du Péché. By Marcelle Tinayre. (Paris, Calmann-Lévy.)

ONE of the most powerful of modern novels is 'La Maison du Péché,' which has attracted much attention during its appearance in *La Revue de Paris*. It is a double study of the effect on the happiness of mankind of a training in rigid Catholic theology, and also at the same time of the exactly opposite Bohemianism of so-called artistic training not well directed. The hero is brought up in the strictest sect, and the heroine is not brought up at all. The lover is a fanatic, and the mistress a modern Parisian. He will not and cannot give up his faith. She will not and cannot pretend a belief which she cannot feel. Both love truly. Each tries to conquer the other: he to convert her, she to make him see that life here is good. Three priests figure in the book, but they might have been reduced to two, as the characters of two of them are not sufficiently diverse for dramatic effect, though real enough in themselves. The point of view is no doubt that of impeachment of fanaticism as destructive both of body and soul, but the author maintains an air of impartiality which, combined with total absence of exaggeration, makes her more persuasive than she would be if the purpose were more obviously revealed. The book recalls in places the great scene in 'La Faute de l'Abbé Mouret,' perhaps the finest thing that Zola has left behind him; but 'La Maison du Péché' is less idealized than the prose poem of the so-called realist. The book is not only of remarkable strength, but also of great human interest, and can be read with pleasure by many different classes of readers. We can thoroughly commend it to attention.

EGYPTOLOGICAL BOOKS.

Abydos. Part I. By W. M. Flinders Petrie. (Egypt Exploration Fund.)—The work recorded in this, the twenty-second memoir of the Fund, lacks the sensational interest attaching to some previous operations, but may have no less permanent value. A great part of Prof. Petrie's excavations during the past season is not described in this volume, as he has wisely held over the account of it until it can be presented in a complete form, although the result is to leave an impression of scrappiness upon the reader. It may be noted, however, that he here gives some further inscriptions, consisting of very rude ink-

drawings on pottery jars of the banner or hawk-name of one Ka, whom he has before asserted to be the earliest king yet discovered of his famous "O" or pre-Menes dynasty. Dr. Naville, who is for the present discharging the duty of *advocatus diaboli* in this matter, has lately denied that this Ka was a king at all, and has asserted that the signs hitherto relied upon by Prof. Petrie to prove his royalty refer only to the tomb or house of the *Ka*, or double, and not to a personal name. Several examples here given, however, show clearly the Horus-hawk surmounting the "banner," on which appears a sign which is apparently intended for the outstretched hands of the *Ka*, followed by the reed-plant which is generally read *suten* or "king." On the whole, therefore, Prof. Petrie seems to have proved, first, that Ka is a proper name, and then that it belonged to a king or prince. As, also, the examples here figured show the tomb door or façade above instead of, as is usual, below the personal name, it is a fair inference that these inscriptions were made at a period when the practice of funeral inscriptions was not settled, and that they are, therefore, anterior in date to those where the form used in historic times first appears, as, for instance, under Den, or Hesepet, the fifth king of the first dynasty. Some interesting ivory and ebony tablets are also given here, which go to increase our stock of the only objects of these early times which can be dignified by the title of continuous sentences in hieroglyphic writing. They are at present all too fragmentary to be read with profit, but may yield to patient investigation. A very complete set of worked flints and the usual series of pottery jars and stone vases follow, with a few monuments from late periods—including even the thirtieth, or last native dynasty—which we may suppose to have escaped the notice of Mariette. A chapter by Mr. Weigall on these later inscriptions concludes the volume, and is as clear as any one can reasonably wish.

The Temple of the Kings at Abydos. By A. St. G. Caulfeild. (Quaritch.)—This is the record of the eighth year's work of the Egyptian Research Account, and deals with the temple built by Seti I. at Abydos, which was first excavated by Mariette some forty years ago. Mr. Caulfeild, who disclaims any pretension to Egyptological attainments, gives a careful account of the building from the architectural point of view, and seems to establish its main features and measurements satisfactorily. The chief interest in the volume, however, is the chapter of 'Archæological Notes,' added by Prof. Petrie, in which he advances several new theories. He tells us, for instance, that the name Ap-uat, or "opener of the ways," bestowed upon the jackal god, is derived from the fact that the best way of finding the road to the deep valleys occasionally met with in the desert is to look for the tracks of the jackals, who thus "open the way" to the traveller, and are appropriately taken as "the openers of the way to the sun-god, and to the dead in the future life." He is probably right, too, in saying that the temple was begun by Seti with a view to afford facilities for the worship of the kings of the early dynasties, and thus to increase the respect of his people for his own newly founded line; but it could be wished that he had elaborated this theme a little more fully. The standards and other details of the temple wall-sculptures here reproduced have, we fancy, already appeared, in part at any rate, in Mariette's 'Abydos,' and it is a pity that we are not told which of them we see here for the first time. In any case, they are of great use to the archaeologist, and throw unexpected light upon one or two points which have hitherto required proof. The row of hawks in the place of the oarsmen in the bark of Sokar thus

suggests to Prof. Petrie the idea that this was fabled to be rowed by the *Shemsu Heru*, or followers of Horus, whose emblem was the hawk; and the shrine of the *Shenty* cow, not known elsewhere, well explains the passage in Apuleius where a figure of that animal is described as being carried in a procession of the gods. One of the foundation deposits of an addition to the temple made in Greek times is addressed to "Sarapis Osiris, the great saviour," and shows in a very striking way the gradual transformation of the Egyptian religion during the decline of the nation.

Grammatica Egizia. Di Francesco Rossi. (Turin, G. B. Paravia.)—This book, of moderate dimensions and issued at a moderate price, deals rather ambitiously with the three principal stages of the Egyptian language as exemplified in the scripts known as hieroglyphic, demotic, and Coptic. To deal thus in some three hundred pages with a literature extending over fifty centuries would seem impossible were it not that the remains of Egyptian writing which have come down to us are still very few, and that every attempt at explaining the mysteries of Egyptian grammar must therefore be tentative. For the rest, the volume proceeds on the same lines as the Egyptian grammar issued by Prof. Rossi in 1877, and can be recommended to those who have found the earlier book of service to them, as a successful attempt to keep abreast of the progress of Egyptian philology. Although in the study of demotic Prof. Rossi accepts the guidance of the great pioneer of demotic studies, the late Heinrich Brugsch, and occasionally discusses the conclusions of Prof. Steindorff, he throughout appears to ignore the work of Prof. Erman and of the rest of the Berlin school of Egyptology. We cannot but agree with M. Maspero in thinking this "ostracism"—to use Prof. Piehl's happy phrase—a mistake.

Catalogue Général des Antiquités Égyptiennes du Musée de Caire: Coptic Monuments. By W. E. Crum. (Service des Antiquités.)—The publication of this magnificent catalogue goes on apace, and Mr. Crum's contribution, in some hundred and fifty folio pages and sixty plates, compares very favourably with its predecessors. Coptic remains are apt to excite more curiosity than they satisfy, and this is particularly the case with the MSS. here catalogued, of which the notices are necessarily brief, and which appear in many cases to be too much damaged to be easily deciphered. Most of them are Coptic versions of Scripture, and therefore chiefly useful to critics of the text of the Bible, but we should like to know more about certain epistles here given of the famous Coptic saint Sinuthius or Shenoute, the notices of which are tantalizing in their brevity. One of them is said to be proper to a certain date, "being the day on which our father Shenoute caught the devil"; and several deal with rules which might throw great light on the life of those early Egyptian monasteries where Christianity no doubt received many accretions. Another epistle, by Severus of Antioch, deals with the little-known Manichean heresy, and makes accusations against its professors which anticipate the horrors of *Lil-Bas*. Among the lay documents are many letters and other writings relating to legal proceedings, and one treatise on alchemy, but apparently none on magic. It is much to be wished that Mr. Crum, whose careful and disinterested work in this connexion gives him every right to be treated as an authority upon all Coptic studies, may find time to supply trustworthy detailed translations of the more curious of these MSS. The remaining monuments are, for the most part, Coptic or Greek tombstones, and not much more interesting than most objects of that nature.

Catalogue Général des Antiquités Égyptiennes du Musée de Caire: Fouilles de la Vallée des Rois. Par G. Daressy. Fasc. I. (Service des Antiquités.) — The treasures found four years ago in the Valley of the Kings are exhibited in a room by themselves at Gizeh, and therefore demand a separate catalogue. The present instalment, although it covers 657 exhibits, is concerned solely with the tombs of *Maherpra* and *Amenophis II.*, those of *Thothmes III.* and his successors being held over to another volume. Of these the tomb of *Maherpra*, which includes his mummy, is perhaps the more interesting, and shows him to have been a young man not above twenty years of age, of very dark complexion, which M. Daressy attributes to an admixture of Nubian blood. That he lived under the eighteenth dynasty seems evident from the bandages of the mummy, which bear the cartouche of *Ra-maat-ka*, the prenomen of the famous *Hatshepsut*; but M. Daressy seems to rather jump at conclusions when he asserts that he was buried in the reign of the great queen's successor, *Thothmes III.*, and the style of the objects buried with him would point to a later date. Some of the most curious of these objects are boxes containing food, such as joints of veal, geese, and pigeons, all scrupulously mummified and swathed in linen bandages, no doubt for the use of the dead. Both this and the tomb of *Amenophis II.* are examples of the extreme care which the Egyptians took to provide for the future life, the king named being furnished with some dozens of statuettes of the *ushabti* kind, so as to ensure the due performance for him of the *corvée* in the next world.

COUNTRY LIFE.

From a Thatched Cottage. By Eleanor G. Hayden. (Constable.) — Miss Hayden's story has again proved her true insight, sympathetic and minute, into the minds of country folk. She is among the best delineators of peasant character. England and the Midlands thereof have in her a student and exponent as suggestive as Miss Barlow in her Irish stories, and as others that could be named who have done much for Scotland. Nor is she without that gift of appropriate setting of her dramas which is one of the best marks of the prose poet. "The young green corn, the new-blown trees," all the sights, and scents, and sounds of the country, lend emphasis to the phases of human action, and produce a combined impression of reality. This is good art, and a contrast to the use often made of "descriptive" passages. In the present book we have put before us vividly the grim side of rustic life, the hardness, for the most part, of the men, "the cheerful pessimism" of the village gossips. Midlanders have not the term "dour," but the trait is noticeable among all the agricultural poor. Among the qualities of their defects, however, are often great patience, great fidelity, and notably great charity to neighbours on emergencies. Humour is not very much developed in that class (not nearly so much as in Scotland, *pace* *Sydney Smith*); what there is is often akin to the bull of Irish growth. *Patty Puddledock's* definition of an *alibi* as something whereby one can prove "as a wurn't where a wur'" is a case in point. Of the story we need only say that *Jim Lyford's* sad life, from the outburst of fury which makes him a homicide to his own violent death, in which he makes noble expiation, is one of the grimdest tragedies we have read. For the love-stories of old and young, of *Molly* and her *Jack*, son of the man her father murdered, her mother, the admirable *Keziah*, and how shepherd *Fuzzell* won her, and the first kiss since he kissed his mother "nigh on forty 'ear ago" (*Lark, I 'udn't ha waited so long if I'd knawed 'twur sa powerful*

soothin')" — for the humours of the village "layer-out," and many other matters, we would recommend the book warmly.

Old Country Life in the Seventeenth Century, by Sir George Sitwell (Scarborough, privately printed), is a charming essay, reprinted from the introduction to a volume of old family letters put together for strictly private circulation. It yields an interesting explanation of how it came to pass that the writer in early days was led to take an exceptional interest in the life of the country squire or county gentleman, and provides a rare fund of information on the social habits of provincial England in the seventeenth century. Renishaw Hall, the fine old Derbyshire home of the Sitwells, was abandoned in 1849, when the failure of the Sheffield Bank wrecked the fortune of Sir George's grandfather. The library, a gradual growth of 300 years, and a famous collection of Civil War tracts were scattered; and but little of the old furniture save the tapestries, pictures, and china remained. Of family history nothing had come down but the tradition that his ancestors had lived there since the days of Elizabeth, and a story of the portrait of 'The Boy in Red,' who was supposed to haunt the house. But when still an Eton boy Sir George delighted to overhaul, on an occasional visit to the old home, the great lumber room, where he discovered desks packed with letters, and chests heaped up with charters, wills, rentals, subsidy rolls, and estate accounts. The earliest will he found was that of Henry, Lord Grey of Codnor, the alchemist, in 1492; and the earliest letter one from Sir James Strangways, the Speaker, about 1680. The charters, many with fine seals, extended over six or seven centuries. Later visits and longer searches in his Oxford days brought to light among the numerous boxes of the muniment room and elsewhere throughout the house impressions of the Great Seals of Elizabeth and James, an original grant of arms, a letter-book temp. Charles II., Richard II.'s charter to the gild of Eckington, a protection from General Lord Fairfax, a household book begun in the year of the Great Plague, and a packet relative to fines and sequestrations during the Commonwealth. The study of these and such like treasures had the result of making Sir George Sitwell, almost unawares, an exceptionally accomplished English antiquary at an unusually early age. But the greatest attraction to the writer of this essay was the vast number of family letters. Though not in any way of equal importance with the Paston letters, or certain other celebrated manuscript collections, these Renishaw letters not only furnish most striking and vivid illustrations of country social life of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, but they also contain some letters and documents of general importance that establish new historical facts, or confirm others that are already known. For instance, in this collection there are papers or letters that contain accounts of the Whitehall plot to assassinate Cromwell, the printed summonses to appear before the Commonwealth Commissioners at York and Westminster, as well as original matter relative to the Titus Oates plot and the Sacheverell disturbances. The order for the disbandment of the Derbyshire regiments in 1646, agreements between the Derbyshire gentlemen in 1690 and 1736, and the Jacobite invasions of 1715 and 1745 are at all events of first importance in the history of the shire. Moreover, there are so many who would be glad to know what country gentlemen of the time thought of the Great Rebellion, the Sickness, the Popish Plot, the 1688 Revolution, and the South Sea Bubble that it is much to be hoped that Sir George Sitwell may before long be persuaded to publish at all events considerable selections from the great mass of family correspondence. There can be no doubt that such a publication

would be warmly welcomed. This particular essay has been written with the primary intention of controverting Macaulay's famous third chapter on the "gross, uneducated, untravelled country gentleman of Charles II.'s reign; a man with the deportment, the vocabulary, and the accent of a carter.....whose ignorance and uncouthness, whose low tastes and gross phrases would, in our time, be considered as indicating a nature and a breeding thoroughly plebeian." The fact is that the unpublished records of those days, not to mention much contemporary literature, supply proof that Macaulay's estimate of the country squire of the Restoration period was a caricature. Macaulay states that the squire of those days never visited London and never opened a book. In the instance of his own ancestors, a family of no exceptional wealth or position, Sir George Sitwell shows the wholesale exaggeration of such statements. He includes delightful accounts of the great house of Renishaw, "surrounded by a number of gardens, courts, and orchards, the walls of which were full of pears, apples, plums, peaches, cherries, nectarines." He justly remarks, after these detailed descriptions, that houses and gardens of this kind could scarcely have been the work of coarse and illiterate men. So thoroughly is he able to turn the tables on Macaulay that there seems little exaggeration in his statement that the squire of Charles II.'s time usually

"was better educated in Greek, Latin, logic, philosophy, divinity and law, than the country gentleman of to-day, and more competent to manage his own affairs; his taste (at least in building, furniture, gardening, and dress) was more refined; he was keenly interested in public events, and willing to make sacrifices for public objects; he took a kindly and helpful interest in his poorer neighbours; though proud of his position, was sensible enough to send his younger sons into trade; and, though he could not 'shoot flying,' had a proper feeling for sport."

THE CLERGY AND THEOLOGY.

The Personal Life of the Clergy. By A. W. Robinson. (Longmans & Co.) — This is the first of a series of handbooks for the clergy edited by the vicar of All Hallows, Barking. If the future volumes are up to the level of that before us the series ought to command a great success. Mr. Robinson writes in a quiet, meditative style, full of the spirit of devotion, and is never either *namby-pamby* or merely commonplace. The book abounds in epigrammatic and sometimes slightly satirical phrases, and has not a dull page. The author wisely insists on the fact that activity is not always a sign of strength, and that the true source of religious influence lies elsewhere. "We are extremely slow to learn that work is not necessarily influence. Were it otherwise this country would be vastly more Christian than it is." This is the theme of the excellent chapter on over-occupation. In our opinion it is one of the greatest evils in the present life of the Church that over-work, which is at best a necessary evil, is being regarded by many, to whom it is not by any means a necessity, as not merely not an evil, but as the ideal of activity. It is well, therefore, to have a man to whom his *confrères* are disposed to listen, telling them: "We must simply decline, with whatever sorrow, to undertake more things than we can hope to do well. Possibly if the truth were known it would be seen that much of the activity of to-day is in reality the effect of indolence." The chapter on secularization is of almost equal value. In addition to the more obvious admonitions it contains a warning against a very serious danger. For in our opinion the cause of the Church of England would be as much damaged by its identification with any particular programme of social reform as it

certainly has been not so long since by its supposed connexion with Toryism. However desirable social and economic reorganization may be, it seems strange that so many of the more "progressive" clergy should treat a problem of this sort as though it were the essence and not merely one of the applications of Christianity. It can never be too often repeated that the business *par excellence* of the clergy is to proclaim the principles of their religion. In so far as these are recognized, the resulting applications in social, political, and business arrangements are sure to be discovered and put into practice, although it is not particularly probable that the clergy are the most likely persons to see the method of such applications. In an age when the thirst for excitement is rapidly passing from the outer world into the inner life of the Church, and energy tends to be diffused rather than concentrated, Mr. Robinson's thoughtful book will, we hope, win a wide influence.

A Study of Modern Anglicanism. By Gordon Milburn. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—The central thought of this little book is expressed by the quotation on the title-page: "Das Wesen der Kirche ist ja dieses, dass sie Gemeinschaft sein will." Mr. Milburn is wedded to the notion that the Church is a definite community with historical continuity and organization of its own. He is thus and so far a High Churchman, and in places expresses his theory in a crude and unattractive form, while the ecclesiastical pretensions of Dissenters are dismissed in a very summary fashion. Yet he definitely calls himself a "Liberal," and we find later what he means by this in his own case. He would do away with all creeds and dogmas, exacting merely from a Churchman an expression of belief in the divinity of Jesus. This is certainly a broad enough basis, for Mr. Milburn makes it plain that he does not regard as essential any of the elaborate statements of the import of this belief which have been framed by the orthodox theologians of the past. His knowledge of German schools of theology is large, and he is at his best in criticizing defects. Indeed, now and then he exhibits considerable powers of satire, and his descriptions of some of the excesses of Ritschianism among German students, and of theological beer-drinking, are more amusing than instructive. In our opinion the most valuable thing in the whole book is the warning conveyed to the orthodox of the harm they do by even the appearance of dishonesty and evasion. The piece of autobiography given in a note is a typical instance of the disgust which young men often acquire through the tactless, even if not actually shuffling methods of the champions of truth, not as it is discovered, but as it has been delivered. There is a certain grasp of philosophic ideas in the book which may redeem its somewhat jejune style. The writing is in fact sadly bald and unattractive, and the author is hardly fair either to Dissenters or Evangelicals. But the book is original in the true sense of the word, and hence has a real interest. It should be of service to moderates of all parties, but will not appeal to experts.

Inns of Court Sermons. By H. C. Beeching. (Macmillan & Co.)—Mr. Beeching is one of those (alas! too few) who maintain the tradition of the Church as a "liberal profession." His sermons are what might have been expected—and a little more. Moderate, sober, yet withal inspiring on subjects whose importance can only decay with religion of any kind, they will be found a pleasing contrast to the illiterate chatter often taken for eloquence by the modern preacher. Once more it is demonstrated that it is not impossible to write like a scholar because one is a Christian, and that there is no fundamental

incompatibility between piety and a good style. The sermons are not strikingly brilliant or original; still less are they purely literary and burdened with quotations. But they are models of good taste, and of that "sweet reasonableness" which has been (whatever be the case now) the glory of the Church of England. They glow with genuine religious emotion, and contain flashes of insight and power which ought to arrest the attention of any educated man. But they would not appeal strongly to the uneducated, still less to the half-educated, perhaps the most potent force in the world of to-day. Nor would they commend themselves as a rule to women, owing to the lack of excitement and "eloquence" in the technical sense. Therefore, they will not be popular. But they may be thought about, and they ought to be read. They would form a suitable gift to the better type of religiously (*not ecclesiastically*) minded undergraduate or sixth-form boy, and might be read with advantage by their "tutors and governors."

Religions of Bible Lands. By D. S. Margoliouth, Laudian Professor of Arabic, Oxford. "Christian Study Manuals." (Hodder & Stoughton.)—A large amount of interesting and important information will be found compressed in this little volume of hundred and thirty-two pages. After a brief introductory chapter, treating on the term "Bible Lands," the growth of articles of religion, and the method of studying the subject, the author proceeds to give an account of (1) Semitic religions, (2) the religion of Egypt, and (3) the religion of Persia. The last two subjects are treated with greater fulness of detail than the first, which, probably owing to the much larger amount of material, contains generalizations rather than concrete descriptions. We note that the author considers Rimmon to be the same as Rahman (loving), the general opinion being that Rimmon is identical with Ramman, the god of thunder.

The Book of Proverbs. Critical Edition of the Hebrew Text, with Notes by the late August Müller, Ph.D., and Emil Kautzsch, D.D. English Translation of the Notes by Duncan B. Alexander, B.D. "Polychrome Bible." (Nutt.)—The general character of this edition of the Bible is now so well known that it is needless to enlarge upon it in the present notice of the Book of Proverbs. It is refreshing, however, to have only one colour—namely, red—besides black in the new part; and it is more pleasant still to see the red confined almost entirely to headings and alphabetical acrostics. There are a number of bold views on the exact meaning of Hebrew words, the original form of the text, and other matters. The Hebrew term "Mashal," for instance, is declared to refer to "poetic lines consisting of two parallel halves or hemistichs," and not to mean "simile or parable," as commonly held.

The Student's Handbook to the Psalms. By the late John Sharpe, D.D. Second Edition. With a Memoir of the Author by the Rev. Robert Sinker, D.D. (Eyre & Spottiswoode.)—The first edition of this work appeared in 1894. From the fact, therefore, that a new one has now been required, one may assume that the work is popular. It also shows that the number of those who consider the old paths of learning safer than the new is far from being a negligible quantity. The Davidic authorship of the Psalms ascribed to David is stoutly defended, nor has the author thrown in his lot with the modern school of Hebrew grammarians founded by Ewald. Mr. Sinker's memoir of Dr. Sharpe is interesting and sympathetic.

Les Préfaces jointes aux Livres de la Bible dans les Manuscrits de la Vulgate. Mémoire Posthume de M. Samuel Berger. (Paris, Imprimerie Nationale.)—Probably it is only those who have had occasion to study the

manuscripts of the Vulgate who are aware that in nearly every manuscript prefaces are prefixed to the majority of the books of the Bible. Some of these prefaces are of constant occurrence, some are very rare; sometimes an author (generally St. Jerome) is assigned to them, but the attribution is as likely as not to be false, and usually they are anonymous; some books have two or three prefaces or brief prefatory sentences, while the intrinsic value of them varies from the historically important statements of Jerome to the complete worthlessness of some of the later anonymous contributors. The prefaces of Jerome have been repeatedly studied and are well known, but for the rest little has been done to reduce the chaos to order. Consequently, all students of the Vulgate will welcome the work of M. Berger (the last, we fear, which can be looked for from his pen) which has just been issued by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. It is true that M. Berger does not go so far as to trace the origin of all these waifs which have attached themselves to the sacred books, but he sets the materials in order and indicates a few conclusions. The only prefaces which can be referred to a date anterior to Jerome are those attached to the four Gospels; these were apparently written for manuscripts of the European class of the old Latin version. Next come the interesting and vigorous prefaces of Jerome; then the extracts from Isidore of Seville which are found so freely in the Bibles of Spanish origin. After that we have miscellaneous contributions of anonymous mediæval scribes, often masquerading under false names; and, finally, we have method introduced into the chaos by the Bibles issued by the University of Paris in the thirteenth century, which established a standard to which scribes generally conformed until the official Papal Vulgate of Sixtus V. swept them all away and left the simple text without prefaces or commentary. In addition to this sketch of the history of the prefaces M. Berger supplies a complete catalogue of them, with an indication of the manuscripts and printed editions in which they may be found; while among the appendixes are tables of the dates, precise or approximate, to which all the Vulgate MSS. examined by him are to be assigned. Since the time when the Academy directed his attention to the subject by selecting the history of the Vulgate in the Middle Ages as the subject of a prize, M. Berger had examined no fewer than 1,200 manuscripts, and he did more than any other man to indicate the main outlines of its textual history. His life was a model to all students of modest and painstaking research, and his death is an irreparable loss to them.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Poetry of Robert Browning. By Stopford A. Brooke. (Isbister.)—"Parnassus, Apollo's mount, has two peaks, and on these, for sixty years, from 1830 to 1890, two poets sat, till their right to these lofty peaks became unchallenged." A reputation as a man of letters has at least this advantage, that one does not judge a book from a ridiculous beginning, as one is tempted to do. Mr. Brooke's reputation is so far justified that the reader will find in this book much acute and thoughtful criticism to reward his perseverance—worthy of presentment, but certainly not worthily presented, tricked out in tawdry eloquence and commonplace. The multitudinous platitudes of the pulpit, filtered through the lecturer's desk, are rarely literature in cold print, and the book before us has every appearance of being a striking instance of the rule. It is little less than an outrage on literary criticism to send out to the world a book so loosely written. A sentence taken at random, such as the following, will show

the style of the book. It reads like the short-hand report of an improvised address:—

"In 'Rabbi Ben Ezra,' a masterpiece of argumentative and imaginative passion—such a poem as only Browning could have written, who, more than other poets, equalised, when most inspired, reasoning, emotions and intuitions into one material for poetry—he applies this view of his to the whole of man's life here and in the world to come, when the Rabbi in the quiet of old age considers what his life has been, and how God has wrought him through it for eternity."

We need not dwell on the technical demerits of such writing. This sentence contains four independent assertions, while the statement that Browning could *equalise* three things into one is remarkable. But Mr. Brooke is not confined to the Chinese-puzzle sentence: he makes great use of the jointed-tongs type. One of the last sentences of chap. xvi. actually fills thirty-two lines of small print, and then leaves off in the middle of a statement. Mr. Brooke is not a Ruskin. The matter of the book is good. It could have been written down in thirty-two pages and usefully expanded to a hundred and twenty-eight. The remarks on 'Sordello,' and on the love of colour in Browning's writing—which explains the attraction he had for the William Morris of earlier years—are especially noteworthy. We agree with Mr. Brooke in his love of 'Balaustion,' but we beg of him next time he sets pen to paper to reflect seriously whether fine writing is necessary, and if it should be, to see that the writing is fine and not tawdry.

Militarism, which is a translation of the Italian book of three or four years ago by Signor Guglielmo Ferrero (Ward, Lock & Co.), although dedicated to the friends of peace, will not be found by the English peace societies to be upon the lines which usually commend themselves to those bodies. The author thinks that the Christian world—or, in other words, the world of the Great Powers—has before it a long period of peace, and he is evidently more inclined to believe that great armaments make for peace than to take the ordinary English view that they are an incentive to war. He also says that while many think that "the war of 1870 gave a fresh lease of life to militarism it really killed it."

Though Europe may never have been so heavily armed as it has been since 1870, desire and opportunity to make use of these weapons have never been so reduced. Now, arms are the body of militarism, while the resort to them is its soul."

When he comes to specify the constitution of the various Powers he declares that

"France, the warrior all in arms, like the legendary Valkirie, is gradually sinking into an enchanted sleep on the mountain of things that have been, beside the stake of Time, which reduces everything to a heap of ashes; and here the must sleep until some hero shall arrive to rouse her from her slumbers. And she will sleep a long time yet."

The same line of argument is pursued in the following passage:—

"From the moment that a people looks upon war as a mere matter of business it rapidly becomes pacific, so far as other European nations are concerned."

The author is not very accurate in his facts, and the publisher has some ground for his note to the translation, though there is a certain over-resort to national self-congratulation in the phrase "inaccuracies which are generally to be found in works written from the foreign point of view." Signor Ferrero altogether understates our military expenditure when he says that our army costs from eighteen to twenty millions a year and our navy from fourteen to sixteen millions. Even at the date at which he wrote this was an underestimate, and also took no note of military expenditure in the Civil Estimates, or of colonial and Indian expenditure; but a correction should have been inserted with later and more accurate figures. The translation appears to be fairly good, but

"diminuted" is a strange word, and more extraordinary still owing to its context: "which diminuted by force of arms."

Urijah Rees Thomas: his Life and Work. By David Morgan Thomas. (Hodder & Stoughton.)—This is an interesting record of a useful life. Urijah Thomas was the eldest son of David Thomas, the well-known Congregational minister. Urijah was born at Tenby on February 16th, 1839. When he was six years old his home was transferred to Stockwell, his father having become pastor of the Independent church there, and occupied a house facing "the charming old-world village green." In 1850 the family removed to Loughborough Park, where his father had built a house, surrounding it with a choice garden and prolific orchard. There were meadows, majestic old elms, spacious cornfields, undulating pastures, brooks, and ponds. These are "to-day as much of a dream as the song of the lark which used to delight that vanished world." Dr. Thomas in 1853 founded the Homilist, of which fifty volumes were published, having an aggregate circulation of 200,000 copies. He was not so fortunate in his attempt to found an ideal daily paper, to be called *The Dial*, for although 240,000 was subscribed, and influential business men took interest in it, including Salt of Saltaire, Jacob Bright, and the Crossleys, and among the ministers who joined actively in the scheme were Binney, Landels, Morley Punshon, Profs. Harley and Newth, and Dr. Parker, the *Dial* never saw the light as a daily. It was issued as a weekly on January 7th, 1860, but had only a short existence of twelve months, when it was amalgamated with the *Morning Star*, a paper which, according to the *Saturday Review*, was "free from the vulgarity of the *Daily News* and the imbecility of the *Morning Herald*." Dr. Thomas died on December 30th, 1894, in his eighty-fourth year. His son said of him, "One of the noblest of fathers God ever gave to a son." Urijah Thomas received his education at Cheshunt, and became minister of Redland Park Church, Bristol, on November 26th, 1862, being then only twenty-two. In 1895 he was chairman of the Congregational Union. He remained at Bristol all his life, and died on March 8th, 1901, having taken for thirty-nine years a prominent part in the religious, philanthropic, and public work of that city, and won the love and veneration of all sections of the Evangelical Church, whether within or without the establishment.

WE have received from the Government Printer at Sydney the annual *Report of the Department of Public Works of New South Wales*, which is again illustrated, as it has been in recent years, by plates of new railway works and public buildings, and even of rooms in the Art Gallery. The Government of New South Wales, now having charge of Norfolk Island, seems to have provided itself with a beautiful yacht.

MR. E. H. LACON WATSON'S *Hints to Young Authors* (Grant Richards) deserves commendation as being well written and conveying a great deal of information of the sort which ought to be obvious, but is not, to the multitude of persons who think themselves qualified to write. We like Mr. Watson's humour, too, though we do not endorse all his views.

Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Macmillan) is the first issue of a popular edition in fortnightly volumes of Mr. Hardy's works. He has changed his publisher so often that we are glad to see at last a uniform edition of his works well printed and bound. The format resembles that of the 'Tess' published by Messrs. Osgood, McIlvaine & Co. in 1892, though a dark binding takes the place of a light one, and, besides Mr. Hardy's trenchant rejoinder to some of his critics, a brief

note as to the identification of localities is included.

MESSRS. NEWNES have issued the *Poems of John Keats* in their "Thin-Paper Edition," and Lodge's *Rosalynde* in the "Caxton Series," both attractive presentations, to which Mr. E. J. Sullivan contributes as illustrator.

WE have received a charming edition of Mr. Kenneth Grahame's *Dream Days*, illustrated by Maxfield Parrish (Lane). The cover alone has the suggestion of a cheap gift-book, which is a pity.

Gulliver's Travels and White's *Selborne* have been added to the "World's Classics" (Grant Richards).

WE have on our table *An Introductory Text-Book of Logic*, by S. H. Mellone (Blackwood),—*The Mother Tongue: Book III., Elements of English Composition*, by J. H. Gardiner and others (Ginn & Co.),—*The Plain Facts as to the Trusts and Tariff* (Macmillan),—*The Argentine Year-Book, 1902* (The Moorgate Publishing Co.),—*The Royal Navy List, October, 1902* (Witherby),—*Letters of an Actress* (Arnold),—*The Motor Maniac*, by Mrs. E. Kennard (Hutchinson),—*The Noes Have It*, by Mary Couchman (S.P.C.K.),—*The Cruise of the Katherine*, by J. A. Higginson (Nelson),—*The Moon Man*, by E. F. J. (Simpkin),—*Two Aunts and a Nephew*, by M. Betham-Edwards (Simpkin),—*Money: the Boy and Man*, by L. B. Walford (S.P.C.K.),—*Ralph Wynward*, by H. Elrington (Nelson),—*Dulcinea*, by E. Hussey (Arnold),—*Liege Lady*, by L. S. Arnold (Jarrold),—*Richard Brice*, by C. Junor (Everett),—*The Comrades, Poems Old and New*, by W. Canton (Ibsbister),—*Shlaaime!!! or, the Problem-Dramatic Mother-in-Law, a Farcical Satire*, by Paul P. Grunfeld (Ye Mitre Press),—*Rain-Blossoms*, by Edith Harvey-Brooks (S.P.C.K.),—*The Enthusiasm of Christianity*, by the Rev. C. T. Ovenden, D.D. (Skeffington),—*and Versailles-aux-Fantômes*, by Marcel Batillat (Paris, Mercure de France). Among New Editions we have *Money and Banking*, by H. White (Ginn & Co.),—*Outlines of Psychology*, by W. Wundt, translated by C. H. Judd (Williams & Norgate),—*Elements of the Theory of the Newtonian Potential Function*, by B. O. Peirce (Ginn & Co.),—*and Marryat's Peter Simple* (Macmillan).

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SWIFT'S POLITICAL TRACTS.

6, King's Bench Walk, Temple, October 21st, 1902.

In your issue of August 10th last year Mr. Aitken endeavoured to elucidate a well-known passage in the 'Journal to Stella' of August 7th, 1712, in which Swift alludes to his authorship of "seven penny papers," all published in the course of the fortnight preceding the imposition of the Stamp Duty, and consequent downfall of Grub Street.

Of five of these pamphlets Swift himself gives the titles in a letter of earlier date, but the other two remain to be identified, and Mr. Aitken hazarded the conjecture that they might be certain penny pamphlets advertised in the 'Examiner,' and published by Swift's bookseller, Morphew—namely, 'It's Out at Last' or, 'French Correspondence Clear as the Sun,' and 'A Dialogue upon Dunkirk,' at the same time regretting that as no copies of these papers could be found in the British Museum or elsewhere the clue could not be followed up.

The present writer has lately been fortunate enough to recover a copy of the first-named pamphlet, which contains so many characteristic marks of Swift's authorship that no apology is needed for presenting it at length, and it is regrettable that Mr. Temple Scott is precluded from reprinting it in his recently published 'Historical and Political Tracts,' forming vol. v. of the new edition of Swift's prose writings. On internal evidence it is submitted that its claim to be considered a genuine production of Swift's pen is certainly to be preferred to the 'Letter of Thanks to the Ld. Bishop of S. Asaph,' which Mr. Scott, on the authority of Nichols, identifies as one of the "seven penny papers." That tract, though not perhaps inferior to some of Swift's lighter pieces in point of wit, is not

written in a style which at all recalls Swift's direct and lucid manner, and is (at least in the judgment of the writer) very doubtfully attributed to him.

It is only necessary to add that the original is printed on one side of a folio sheet, without name of publisher:

"It's Out at Last:
 or, French Correspondence Clear as the Sun.

"There is a Story goes of an old Prophetess, that Prophesied always true to no purpose; for her Fate was, never to be believ'd: The same thing has happen'd, to a worthy Patriot and Member of the House of Commons, who has openly in his Speeches declar'd that he was sure that the M---stry Corresponded with France, and that in a little time there would appear manifest Proofs of it; but such is the Stupidity or rather Malignancy of the Tory-Party, that they took no manner of notice of what this Eloquent Gentleman warn'd them of, in his pathetick Harangues, till now that they have a convincing Proof of it, with a witness, in this treacherous Surrender of Dunkirk.

"It is judiciously observed by a learned Author, that the Fate of Prince and States is very hard; for Plots against them are never believ'd till they are executed, and consequently without the possibility of being prevented, for everybody will allow me, that what is already executed, is so. I am afraid this will be soon verify'd upon this Nation, by the Clandestine giving up of that Important Place.

"I take it, that the Surrender of Dunkirk is so plain a proof of our M---stry's Corresponding with France, that I should pity any Man, as oppressed with a political Lethargy, should he doubt of it any more: I say this as well to vindicate the Honour of that worthy Gentleman, as to awaken this insensible drowsy Nation, who cannot perceive that it is Day when the Sun shines.

"It was pleasantly said by a Swedish poet,

Timeo Danos Dona ferentes.

I am afraid of the Danes when they bring Presents.

"Let us only consider the value of this Present of the French Monsieur; the many Millions it has cost us: the many more it has cost us: It is not only giving us a strong Fortification, but Fleets of Frigates and Privateers, and all Pretences afterwards to disturb our Trade in the Channel, and all this is still doubted when it is taken from him, and given to us: And can any Man imagine he does all this for nought? If any Man can show me that ever he did the like before, I will yield the point; but if no such Instance can be given, it must follow demonstratively, that he reckons the present M---stry his Friends: for give me leave to say, no Man would make such a valuable Present but to a Friend, and it were very unbecoming for any but a Friend to accept of it: Therefore I wish the Pa---ent would make the M---stry give an account if they came honestly by it.

"I have often ruminated in my Mind, of the Reasons that have induc'd the F---h Monsieur to make this Surrender; and I will give you my Conjectures in short. I think, in the first place, it is not altogether improbable that he has Sold it now, as he Bought it before; and I wish that may not be the chief Reason of the Scarcity of Species at this time. 2dly, I believe he has done it out of pure Spight to the Whigs, whom he knows to be his irreconcileable Enemies; and I will be bold to say, if he had been studying for it, he could not have serv'd them more maliciously spightful Trick. 3dly, Why may it not be a Token of Love to the Tories, and particularly to my Lady M---sham, for the great Service she has done him: and I am the more confirm'd in my Opinion, since the Governor has been nam'd.

"Let us now consider the Difference between the Old and the New M---stry: They scorn'd to accept of Dunkirk and a dozen more strong Towns of the French King, when they were offer'd; a plain and convincing Proof that they had no secret Dealings with France. The D. of M---gh scorn'd that modern Frenchify'd way of taking of Towns; he scorn'd so pitiful a Conquest, without Powder and Bullets, Blood and Wounds. By the same uncorrupt and generous Temper, they refus'd a Sum of Money which the F---h King offer'd them to help to drive the D. of Anjou out of Spain. It shall never be said that England took French Money, was the Saying of a Great and a Wise Minister; a Saying which ought to be Engrav'd in Letters of Gold upon his Tomb-stone. O the miserable Condition of the Nation, that has been forc'd to part with so uncorrupt, so wise, and so truly an English M---ry! Men that, for their own Ends, are carrying on private Bargains with our Enemies; in pursuance of which, they have not only accepted of Dunkirk, but would, without any manner of Hesitation, take Toulon and St. Malo too, if they were offer'd.

"Thus I think it is plain, from what has been said, that our M---ry are in a close Correspondence

with France ; and, that the F---h Monsieur expects Justice from them, not to say some little Favour to boot. I wish the Nation had open'd their Eyes before it was too late, and consider'd well before they had any Dealings with the Devil ; for it is well known, that when once he has drawn them in to accept of the least Trifle as a Present, they are his for ever after."

The suspiciously apposite quotation from the "Swedish poet," the grave enumeration of the reasons for the surrender of Dunkirk, and the overwhelming evidence of the turpitude of the ministry which the author pretends to find in their readiness, nay, eagerness, to accept not only Dunkirk, but Toulon and St. Malo to boot —are not these all significant touches of the Dean's ironical pen ? H. LAVERS-SMITH.

THE WIFE OF WARREN HASTINGS.

Can any one inform the inquirer whether a letter is still extant written about February 20th, 1782, from Capt. William Sands to Major John Scott, from Calcutta, describing the behaviour of Mrs. Hastings while her husband was in danger at Benares ? The letter was written (Gleig, ii. 452) by order of Hastings, who says that his wife's fortitude and presence of mind proved the means of saving a whole province from impending ruin. It was to be shown to his confidential friends in England, and Scott may very probably have had it copied. It has been sought in vain at the British Museum and the India Office, but might possibly be in the possession of some descendant of Major Scott, afterwards Scott-Waring. Hastings alludes to his wife's services on this occasion in the last letter he wrote to his friend Toone, pressing her claims upon the Court of Directors (Gleig, iii. 521). Any information would be gratefully received by

SYDNEY C. GRIER.

HÉGÉSIPPE MOREAU.

THERE is perhaps no more pathetic figure in the annals of modern French poetry than that of Héhéspippe Moreau, to whom a modest monument is to be erected in the Montparnasse cemetery. His brief career has been described by Sainte-Beuve as "un pendant trop fidèle" to that of Chatterton, and no more appropriate or suggestive a motto could be selected for his tombstone than that of "The French Chatterton." Although sixty-four years have passed since his death, his work is almost as unknown in England to-day as it was half a century or more ago. There is no edition of his works, in prose or verse, in the London Library, and one has to fall back on the never-failing British Museum. I know of but one translation—doubtless there are others—and that is 'Wisdom' in Dean Carrington's recent 'Anthology of French Poetry,' but in this the spirit seems to have evaporated in its journey across the Channel. It would be interesting to know where the Dean got this poem from, for I have not been able to find it in any edition of Moreau.

Last year Messrs. Hachette published three out of four of Moreau's 'Contes à ma Sœur,' in the original language, but with English "apparatus." This is a good beginning ; but these perfect little gems deserve to be translated into our language, and, with a selection of his poetry, would form a very acceptable book. Moreau's intellectual life-work indeed forms but a slender volume. He has not suffered from a lack of editors, for editions of his works appeared under the care of Sainte-Beuve in 1860 and 1864, and of L. Ratisbonne in 1861 (this has been reprinted in the Calmann-Lévy collection at one franc, and is still in print). An edition with a biographical notice by his friend A. Lebailly appeared in 1863, and one by Vallery-Radot in 1864, whose edition was reprinted by Lemerre in 1890 ; whilst fresh impressions of his 'Contes' in 1881 and of the 'Chansons' in 1883 were edited for the Librairie

des Bibliophiles by Alexandre Piedagnel. The little brochure of M. Th. Lhuillier, 'Héhéspippe Moreau et son Diogène,' 1881, contains a full bibliography and all the facts concerning Moreau's life and works which are likely to be known. A few "appreciations" of Moreau have been written by French literary critics, but none has the flavour of that by Sainte-Beuve which appeared in the *Constitutionnel* of April 21st and 22nd, 1851, written on the occasion of the new edition of 'Le Myosotis,' and reprinted in the 'Causeries du Lundi.' Two of Moreau's poems, 'La Voulzie' and 'La Fermière,' have done good service in French anthologies. They both possess the beauty of things eternal.

In his birth, as in his short career, Moreau was unfortunate. He was born ("de père inconnu") at No. 9, Rue St. Placide on April 9th, 1810, and the house now bears a memorial tablet to that effect. He was registered under the name of Pierre Jacques Rouillot ; when his mother married a professor de quatrième at the College of Provins he appears to have been provided with a new Christian and a fresh surname. At thirteen he was an orphan, and Madame Favier ("la patronne de sa mère") adopted him ; she hoped to have made a priest of him, but "il avait à peine la foi—il n'avait pas la vocation." He studied first at the College of Provins, then at the little séminaire of Meaux, and afterwards at that of Avon, near Fontainebleau. At the age of sixteen he left school and entered the printing establishment at Provins of M. Lebeau, whose daughter, Louise Lebeau, Moreau has immortalized as *ma sœur* in some of his most charming poems. To her also he addressed his 'Contes.' He composed verses and wrote stories between times. In or about the year 1828 he made the acquaintance of M. P. A. Lebrun, himself a poet, a member of the Académie Française, and, from 1831 to 1848, Directeur of the Imprimerie Royale. This acquaintance might have been in many ways advantageous to the poet, but "il n'était pas de ceux qui se laissent protéger aisément." At about this period Charles X. passed through Provins, and to celebrate the occasion Moreau wrote a patriotic song, 'Vive le Roi !' He also wrote a poem in honour of La Fayette, the manuscript of which M. Lebrun lent to Sainte-Beuve.

When about nineteen years of age Moreau entered the famous printing establishment of M. Didot in the Rue Jacob ; to M. Didot he addressed a pleasant 'Épître sur l'Imprimerie,' of which the end is essentially symptomatic :—

Hélas ! pourquoi faut-il qu'aueuglant la jeunesse,
Comme tous les plaisirs, l'étude ait son ivresse ?
Les chefs-d'œuvre du goût, par mes soins reproduits,
Ont occupé mes jours, ont enchanté mes nuits,
Et souvent, insensé ! j'ai repandu des larmes,
Semblable au forgeron qui, préparant des armes,
Avide des exploits qu'il ne partage pas,
Siffle un air belliqueux et rêve des combats.

Moreau was irresistibly attracted towards a literary career, and he did not long remain with Didot. From 1830 until nearly the time of his death he contributed his trifles to such periodicals as *Psyché*, the *Journal des Demoiselles*, *Charivari*, and the *Revue Poétique*, but rarely signed his name to them. The four 'Contes à ma Sœur' first appeared in the magazines in 1836-7. It was when Moreau threw over the substance for the shadow that his struggles commenced ; the few score francs which he received for his contributions can only have afforded him a very temporary and irregular relief. He took an active part in the Revolution of July, 1830 ; his first serious illness, brought on by neglect and exposure, overtook him in 1833, and he was compelled to enter a hospital. When convalescent he left Paris and returned to Provins, where he was welcomed by his old friend Madame Favier, who had now married a farmer, M. Guérard ; and he has left a most touching tribute to this good woman's hospitality in 'La Fermière,' written in 1835. During his sojourn at Provins he started a little periodical,

Diogène, of which only nine numbers appeared, and which is now of the greatest rarity.

Moreau left Provins for Paris in 1834, and from this time till his death in December, 1888, he was engaged in one long struggle against fate. His 'Myosotis, Petits Contes et Petits Vers,' was published by Desessarts in 1838, a few months before his death : of this collection there are modern cheap editions at 60 centimes and 25 centimes respectively. He was again taken seriously ill, and was compelled to enter the *Hospice de la Charité*, where he was placed in bed No. 12. The clean bed, the orderly room, the warm soup : "C'est l'opulence," exclaimed the dying man, "j'ai mon pain tous les jours." Near the hospital there was living a friend of the poet, Sainte-Marie Marcotte, and on December 20th, 1888, a messenger brought him the news : "Monsieur, le numéro 12 est mort." Over 3,000 people attended the funeral at Montparnasse of this wastrel, who, if poor in the things of this world, was rich in the gifts which make for immortality.

The tardy erection of a permanent if unostentatious memorial to Moreau is largely due to his "frères en typographie," with M. Junius-Joyeaux, of the *Société Typographique*, as the secretary of the committee. The poet's portrait on this memorial will be based on a plaster medallion which belongs to M. Eugène Baillet. Perhaps no more appropriate lines from his own poems could be suggested for the monument than the following from 'La Fermière' :—

En fermant les yeux je revois
L'enclos plein de lumière,
La hale en fleur, le petit bois,
La ferme et la ferrière.

W. ROBERTS.

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. LONGMAN will publish in a week or two Mr. Rider Haggard's 'Rural England,' which includes material added to that contributed to the *Daily Express*. The author has been in twenty-seven counties, as well as the Channel Islands. He was born in a farmhouse, and he says in his preface :—

"I have travelled in and tried to learn what I was able of the physical peculiarities, climate, and husbandry of Holland, Norway, France, and Italy in Europe, of Cyprus and Syria in the Mediterranean, of Egypt and the Southern Territories and States in Africa, of Mexico in Central America, and of Iceland in the Northern seas. I have owned and own land, have in Natal worked with my own hands on the land, have hired and hire land, and for the last thirteen years or so have been myself a practical farmer of a considerable acreage of land in England, as once I was abroad."

MR. CLIVE PHILLIPS-WOLLEY, the author of 'One of the Broken Brigade,' 'The Chicamon Stone,' &c., has written a volume of patriotic verse which will be published very shortly by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., under the title 'Songs of an English Esau,' expressing the anxiety of a distant colonist to render his aid to the mother country in time of trouble. Mr. Phillips-Wolley is known in Canada as a writer of vigorous verse.

THE poems of the late Mr. Lionel Johnson, both published and unpublished, are to be collected for early publication, with an introduction by Katharine Tynan. Mr. Johnson's prose essays are also being collected by Mr. Arthur Galton.

THE book on his recent travels in Central Asia which Dr. Sven Hedin is writing at present will be published in the spring of next year.

PROF. KNIGHT, of St. Andrews, intends to issue through Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, of Edinburgh, a volume of personal recollections of 'Some Nineteenth-Century Scotsmen.' The names will include those of Sir William Hamilton, Dr. Chalmers, 'Christopher North,' Prof. Aytoun, Dr. John Brown, Russel of the *Scotsman* (whose life Mr. Barrie once intended to write), Patrick Proctor Alexander, and John Skelton. Prof. Knight disclaims the characters of critic, biographer, and literary appraiser. "I am," he says, "only a recorder."

A NEW portrait of R. L. Stevenson by Joseph W. Simpson is to be issued as the first of "The Literary Portrait Series," announced by Messrs. R. Grant & Son, of Edinburgh. It will measure 10½ in. by 9½ in., being lithographed in colours and mounted ready for framing. The portraits of other eminent men of letters will follow.

MR. A. I. DASENT writes from 59, St. George's Road, Ecclestone Square:—

"The compiler of the facsimile reprint of 'An Exact List of the Lord's Spiritual and Temporal,' &c., in 1734, noticed in last week's *Athenæum*, is mistaken in supposing that this is the earliest known peerage directory. Had he searched the British Museum Catalogue more thoroughly he would have found a copy of the same publication for 1733. Having been a collector of almanacs for many years, I have an earlier copy of the same list dated 1732, and I believe that the names and addresses of members of both Houses of Parliament had been published regularly for some years even before that date. I should be very grateful to any collector of these ephemeral publications who would favour me with particulars of an earlier edition than mine of 1732."

FOR some time there has been an idea of a memorial to the late Dr. Hubert Ashton Holden, the well-known classical author, who was for twenty-five years head master of Ipswich School. A meeting of subscribers was held there last week, when it was decided to found two annual prizes at the school, for Latin verse and Greek verse respectively, and to devote the balance of the fund to the conversion of Dr. Holden's old class-room (the sixth-form room in the school) into a school library and to the purchase of standard books. Subscriptions amounting to 212*l.* have been received, and the list will remain open for a short time, Mr. S. A. Notcutt, Constitution Hill, Ipswich, being the honorary secretary.

THE death of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the founder of the woman's suffrage party in the United States, has been announced by many journalists with remarks which show a complete forgetfulness of the earlier work in the same direction of the pioneers of the movement in England. It has become a commonplace to state that the movement took its birth in the United States in 1848 and was imitated in this country by John Stuart Mill. But, of course, all students of the subject are aware that Mill only inherited in this respect the doctrines of the earlier Utilitarians, and the names and writings of the Godwins ought surely not to be forgotten.

WE are sorry to notice the creeping-in again of the word "Premier" for Prime Minister, even in places where a better practice might have been expected. The Australian Premiers are past praying for.

The gallant attempt of Sir E. Barton to introduce a distinction for the Commonwealth by the use of the better term has failed. But in this country Gladstone had succeeded in impressing upon the literary public his horror at the substitution of "Premier" for the classical "Minister," as describing the First Minister or Prime Minister, and the reversion to "Premier" is enough to make him turn in his grave.

A FIRE in the house of Mr. W. Moir Bryce, of Blackford Road, Edinburgh, was happily checked before some valuable manuscripts were endangered. Mr. Bryce has the original MS. of Allan Ramsay's 'Gentle Shepherd,' purchased from the Boswell collection. He has also the MS. of Scott's 'Napoleon,' which he bought at Sotheby's in 1894 for 198 guineas, besides the MSS. of 'Count Robert of Paris' and several articles written by Scott for the *Quarterly Review*. The Service Book used in Holyrood Abbey when the Scottish kings were in residence is another of Mr. Bryce's relics. He paid 250*l.* for it, chiefly to prevent its going to America.

MR. J. KEBLE BELL has been appointed editor of the *Sketch*. He began his journalistic career in London on the editorial staff of the Press Association, became assistant editor of the *Sketch* in 1899, and acted as sole editor throughout Mr. Latey's prolonged illness. As "Keble Howard," he has published two books and many short stories and verses. A one-act play from his pen was produced at the Court Theatre last summer. Mr. Keble Bell, whose father has been vicar of Henley-in-Arden for nearly thirty years, was educated at Wantage and Worcester College, Oxford, and is still under thirty.

A SOMEWHAT rare book, Mrs. Sartoris's 'A Week in a French Country House,' is to be republished. Mrs. Richmond Ritchie contributes a biographical preface of some forty pages, in which she records in her inimitable way many recollections and anecdotes of the author and of her equally clever sister Fanny Kemble. Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. hope to issue the volume a few days hence, with a frontispiece portrait of Mrs. Sartoris, and two illustrations by Leighton which appeared in the *Cornhill Magazine* and in the original edition.

MR. KRUGER'S memoirs are to be issued by Mr. Unwin in a special continental edition in two paper-bound volumes at 1*l.* 50 or 2 francs each. They will inaugurate a "Library for Continental Readers," in which Mr. Unwin intends to publish special editions of works of fiction and fact by popular English and American authors. The series will not necessarily be confined to books which Mr. Unwin publishes in England. In addition to the English and continental editions, special colonial issues of Mr. Kruger's book will appear, while the Century Company of New York have taken up the publication of the work in the United States.

MR. GRANT RICHARDS has in hand 'Finance and Social Perils: an Analytic Study,' by Mr. P. Barry, who has written much on commercial matters.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS will shortly publish a choice edition of Stevenson's 'An Inland Voyage,' with twelve illustrations of the scenery of the book.

A VOLUME of verse entitled 'The Hermits of Carmel,' by Dr. George Santyana, Castilian Professor of Philosophy at Harvard, and the author of some striking essays on 'Beauty' and 'Religion and Poetry,' will be issued next week by Mr. Brimley Johnson.

FROM the same publisher is due a pamphlet by Mr. J. P. Holah, called 'The Gospel Manuscripts,' which is an attempt to set down in simple form the general results of modern Biblical criticism.

A MEMOIR of B. F. Stevens will shortly be published in connexion with the issue of his great work, the 'Catalogue Index of Manuscripts in the Archives of England, France, Holland, and Spain relating to America, 1763 to 1783.' The final pages of the introduction were finished just before the writer died. The work may well be termed stupendous, from the labour and research necessary to complete one hundred and eighty thick foolscap folio volumes with the numbered references to this period of twenty years. Nearly the whole of the limited edition is in clear manuscript, rendered in facsimile by the photographic process. The memoir of Mr. Stevens, compiled by one of his oldest friends, will appear in two forms: in folio, bound up with his own introduction to the great index, and in octavo, as a separate work.

MR. L. E. KASTNER is reprinting the 'Art Poétique François' of Thomas Sibilet, first printed at Paris in 1548, and last reprinted at Lyons in 1576. It is the first French treatise on poetry that bears the name "Art poétique," and that really makes an attempt to grapple with some of the chief difficulties of French versification, instead of confining itself (like Sibilet's predecessors, Eustache Deschamps, Fabri, Gracien du Pont, &c.) almost exclusively to a detailed examination of the poems with a fixed form, such as the ballade, rondeau, virelai, lai, &c.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE will sell on Monday and Tuesday week some interesting books and manuscripts from various sources. Some of the more noteworthy include Dr. Dee's copy of a fifteenth-century MS., Raymund Lully's 'Opera, Chymica et Alchemica,' said to have been written in St. Bartholomew's Priory, London; three fifteenth-century editions of Albertus Magnus, including the *editio princeps*, circa 1478 (Hain, #459, and Proctor, 1215); a number of very scarce early sixteenth-century books relating to America and printed chiefly in Spain; a copy of the first Polish Bible, 1561, of which no specimen is said to have been offered for public sale in England for thirty years; and a copy of the extremely rare *editio princeps* of the Socinian Bible, 1563, secretly printed in the Polish language.

DR. MURAKAMI, of Tokio, has left England on his way home, much delighted with the results of his three years' search in the archives of the Continent and England for material illustrating the early relations between those places and Japan. His late visit to Seville, Simancas, and Madrid gave him some very valuable documents, including one detailed account of the Japanese Court and country in 1609 by a Spaniard

who was then wrecked on the coast and had to remain in the island for a year before he could get home. Several early Japanese letters to Europeans were also found by Dr. Murakami. He hopes to print his report to his Government in English as well as in Japanese.

M. JULES BRISSON, who died last week, was for many years a prominent figure in the literary and journalistic world of France. His friends included Lamartine, Thiers, Jules Simon, and Jules Ferry. He was born in 1828, and the many volumes of his early manhood included 'Giorgio et Adonai,' a collection of verses, romances, and chants. He distinguished himself as a journalist first on the *Tribune* of Bordeaux, about 1848, and afterwards on the *Estafette* with Jules Ferry. In 1863 he started the *Annales Politiques et Littéraires*, of which he was the moving spirit up to the time of his death. In 1887 he founded the *Parti National*, which had a very short existence. Boulanger was to him the proverbial "red rag." M. Brisson wrote a five-act drama, 'L'Athée,' which, however, was never produced on the stage.

THE Hungarian sculptor J. Fádrusz has affixed to the monument of the legendary Hungarian warrior Tüthütüm an inscription, as he supposed, in the old Hungarian "Runen-script." It appears that the artist had the ill luck to derive his Rune alphabet from a codex which is now unanimously regarded by competent scholars as a forgery. This incident led to a long newspaper correspondence, which has brought to light an important fact hitherto all but unknown. There are still a few aged Hungarian herdsmen who know and use the Rune alphabet in almost the same form as it was used two centuries ago. The sculptor himself says that he has come across an old peasant in the Temescher Komitat, Michael Tax, who still keeps his accounts in this antique style upon pieces of wood. This writing, however, is fast becoming extinct, and is incomprehensible to the young. Since the introduction of compulsory schooling every child learns to read and write, and the Rune alphabet is superfluous. Michael Tax told the sculptor that he knew only three other persons who could read and write it.

THE date of the International Historical Congress at Rome has at last been fixed for April 2nd to 9th, 1903, in order to prevent its interfering with the German Historical Congress, which is to be held April 14th to 19th. The German Historical Congress postponed its meeting last April in order not to clash with the Roman, which eventually was put off till next year, and it was at first feared that the two congresses would interfere with each other. However, it will now be possible for members to be present at both.

THE administrative board of the Landesbibliothek in Karlsruhe has declined to accept a complete collection of the works of Nietzsche. Whether or no the true ground of the refusal lies in the fear of offending the susceptibility of religious circles cannot, as the *Freie Wort* asserts, be decided. But the reason given by the authorities and published in that journal is amazing. The works of the pessimist philosopher, accord-

ing to the library commission, belong to *belles-lettres*. It is a rule with the library to exclude from its shelves books which are merely of that character.

A BILL dealing with Danish literary and artistic copyright, and proposing to make Denmark join the Convention of Berne, has been brought forward by the Danish Government, and is likely to pass into law this session.

WE note the publication of the Census for the County of Lincoln (1s. 6d.); and a further volume of the Irish Census (County of Tipperary, 2s.).

SCIENCE

The New Volumes of the Encyclopædia Britannica.—Vol. IV. *Ele-Gla.* Vol. V. *Gla-Jut.* (A. & C. Black, and the Times.)

It is obviously impossible to notice completely so large a range of subjects as are presented in these two volumes. We shall therefore on the present occasion devote the most of our review to a special consideration of the scientific articles. It is in science, after all, that human thought has made the greatest advances in the last twenty-five years, though good workers in this domain have seldom been equally good writers.

As we turn over the articles relating to Electricity in vol. iv., and compare them with the corresponding section of the previous edition, the conviction is forced upon us that the progress in pure and applied electricity during the interval has been almost without parallel in other departments of physical science. Hertz's epoch-making researches on electric waves; the discovery of Röntgen rays, Lenard rays, and other obscure radiations—notably, the radio-activity of certain metals like uranium—these and many other fascinating topics are discussed with great ability in the articles by Prof. J. A. Fleming, Prof. J. J. Thomson, and Mr. W. C. D. Whetham. Those readers who are not sufficiently advanced to enter into the discussion of such subjects as ionic velocities or the theory of electrons may turn with profit to the articles in which several technical writers of distinction deal with the practical applications of the science. Here will be found excellent descriptions of the various modes of electric lighting, electric traction, the generation and supply of electricity on a commercial scale, the electric furnace, the manufacture of carbonium, and other discoveries and developments which have marked the last five-and-twenty years.

The article 'Elevators,' by Prof. Thurston, of Cornell University, is interesting, though brief, in that it reminds us of the great advance which has been made in recent times in hydraulic and electric lifts, especially in the tall buildings of the United States. This country has been slow to take up lifts, but of late years they have increased wonderfully.

Competition with the electric light is mainly responsible for the great improvements which have been introduced of late years in the manufacture and utilization of gas. The present position of the industry is ably sketched by Prof. V. B. Lewes in his article 'Gas and Gas-lighting.' The two

subjects chiefly considered are the modern methods of enriching coal-gas, especially by mixture with carburetted water-gas, and the history of the incandescent mantle.

Several prominent geographical articles are included. Of these, the most important is the general survey of 'Geography,' which has been entrusted to the capable hands of Dr. H. R. Mill, a writer who is also responsible for the geographical part of 'England and Wales,' whilst the corresponding portion of 'Europe' is from the pen of Mr. G. G. Chisholm. The progress of geographical discovery in all parts of the world during the last quarter of a century is sketched by Dr. Mill, necessarily with brevity, yet with accuracy and with such approach to completeness as to include references to exploration during the present year. The physical side of the article shows how close is the relationship between geography, when treated in a philosophical spirit, and the science of geology.

'Geology,' from the pen of Sir Archibald Geikie, is strictly a supplement to his corresponding article in the previous edition. It sets forth in a luminous manner the recent progress of our knowledge regarding the facts and principles of the science, but unfortunately the result occasionally comes out as a negative quantity. Thus the overthrow of Croll's theory to account for variations of climate leads Sir Archibald to remark, with reference to the Ice Age, that "at present no satisfactory explanation of it has been offered." Modern views on the age of the earth are discussed at some length, and the writer, as might be expected, ranks himself with the long-chronology men:—

"In the present state of science it is out of our power to state positively what must be the lowest limit of the age of the Earth. But we cannot assume it to be much less, and it may possibly have been much more, than the 100 millions of years which Lord Kelvin was at one time willing to concede."

A considerable part of the article is occupied with a sketch of the history of volcanic activity in the British area throughout the geologic ages—a subject on which Sir Archibald has written largely elsewhere. With regard to secular upheaval of the earth's crust, geologists of the older school will learn with a feeling of relief that so distinguished an authority as Sir A. Geikie refuses assent to the views of Prof. Suess, which would refer the relative change of level between land and water to fluctuations of sea-surface rather than to shifting of land-level. We may, therefore, continue to regard our "raised beaches" as really raised, not as a record of lowered waters. It is not so clear, however, that submarine forests really indicate depression of the land. In Structural Geology Sir Archibald naturally enlarges on the structure of the Alps and of the Scottish Highlands as worked out in recent years; whilst in Stratigraphy his remarks are mainly centred on the progress of our knowledge of pre-Cambrian rocks. Much indeed has been done with regard to these ancient rocks since the appearance of the last edition of the 'Encyclopædia,' but no satisfactory relics of a pre-Cambrian fauna, though diligently sought, have yet been found. Still, it needs but a small measure of the spirit of prophecy to predict that

before the next edition is called for such a fauna will assuredly have been discovered.

Another technical article of importance in this volume is that on 'Glass,' by Mr. H. J. Powell, of Whitefriars. The manufacture of optical glass has undergone a remarkable development in Germany, and the Jena glass now enjoys a world-wide reputation. This progress has been mainly due to the scientific investigations of Prof. Abbe and Dr. Schott, which were begun in 1881, and were very liberally subsidized by the Prussian Government. On this subject Mr. Powell remarks :

"It is doubtful how far State aid can permanently benefit an industry, but it is certain that no institution for aiding scientific industry exists in England comparable to the Imperial Technical and Physical Institute of Charlottenburg."

It may be hoped that the establishment of our National Physical Laboratory may do something towards the removal of this reproach.

The article 'Gold,' from the pen of the distinguished American mining engineer Mr. Hays Hammond, is scarcely full enough. It deals satisfactorily with the mining industry of South Africa, but says very little about such gold-producing countries as West Australia and West Africa. In the metallurgy of gold the great advance in recent years has been due to the introduction of the cyanide process.

Several important articles on natural history appear in this volume. Dr. Günther, who was responsible for the article 'Ichthyology' in the last edition, contributes a supplement in which he traces the great development in recent years of our knowledge of fishes. It appears that the number of species now known is nearly double the number recognized in 1870. The classification, too, has undergone much change. It has become the fashion to unite the ganoids with the teleosteans, as was suggested long ago, in a group known as the Teleostomi; whilst Cope's recognition of a vertebrate class Agnatha, distinct from Pisces since its members have neither paired fins nor lower jaw, has been followed by Dr. Smith Woodward, though strong objections have been urged against it by Dr. Traquair. The most remarkable fossil fish discovered in recent times is the little fossil from the Old Red Sandstone of Scotland, a kind of lamprey with a calcified skeleton, described by Traquair as *Palaeospondylus*.

As about 8,000 new species of insects are named annually, it is evident that our knowledge of these forms of life must have largely increased since the issue of the last edition of the 'Encyclopædia.' Mr. D. Sharp, in his article 'Insects,' presents a masterly summary of recent progress in entomology. It is estimated by some authors that the entire insect world numbers something like 10,000,000 forms; many are still unknown to science, and as a large number of species must be in process of extinction,

"it is probable that a considerable proportion of the species at present existing will disappear from the face of the earth before we have discovered or preserved any specimens of them."

The relation of mosquitoes to malaria is a subject to which reference is naturally

made by Mr. Sharp, but an ampler discussion of the subject will follow later.

'Gymnosperms,' by Mr. Seward, of Cambridge, gives a comprehensive account of a group of plants interesting alike to students of botany and of geology. No separate article was appropriated to the gymnosperms in the last edition. These naked-seeded plants have a remarkable history, going back at least to the period of our coal forests. The group includes not only the well-known conifers and the less familiar cycads, but also such remarkable forms as the maiden-hair tree, or *Ginkgo*, a solitary survivor from the past, differing from all other gymnosperms, and recently placed in a class of its own—the *Ginkgoales*. Although it is now found in a wild state only perhaps in China, and is rare even there, it was at one time extant in the British area, for its leaves have been found in the plant-beds which are interstratified with the lava-flows in the cliffs of Mull, and are referable to early Tertiary times.

It is not without significance, as a sign of the times, that the important article 'Iron and Steel,' which appears in vol. v., should have been contributed by a distinguished American technologist—Prof. H. M. Howe, of Columbia University. When the last edition of the 'Encyclopædia' was published the subject was entrusted to English experts; but at that time Great Britain headed the list of iron and steel producing countries, whilst the United States occupied the second place. Prof. Howe, writing with the statistics for 1899 before him, finds these conditions reversed. Additional interest would have been given to his article if a curve had been introduced, so as to show graphically how the United States gained ground in the competition year by year, until they overtook us and finally shot far ahead. At the same time, the marvellous advance of Germany and Luxemburg must not be overlooked—an advance due mainly to the extension of the basic process of steel manufacture.

Not only has the centre of gravity of the iron and steel industry shifted its position in recent years, but also the nature of the production has completely changed. Twenty years ago we were living in the age of iron; to-day we are living in the age of steel. Among recent improvements may be noted the extensive use of "alloy steels," especially those containing nickel, manganese, chromium, and tungsten, a small proportion of these foreign metals greatly affecting the mechanical properties of the steel. Such has been the progress of our knowledge of the constitution of iron and steel that of late years a new nomenclature has arisen. We have gained, by the use of the microscope, a remarkable insight into the minute structure of these metals, and are able to compare them with certain rocks. Just as rocks are composed of constituent minerals, so iron and steel may be resolved into constituents known as ferrite, cementite, pearlite, martensite, &c.

The remarkable advance in the manufacture of pig-iron is due to the enormous rate of production of the modern blast furnaces erected in America; thus four Carnegie furnaces to-day will turn out as much iron as the whole world produced a century

ago. It is notable, as Prof. Howe points out, that nearly all the great improvements in iron and steel manufacture have been due to Britons, and that the chief iron-producing nations—Great Britain, the United States, and Germany—are united by blood relationship.

We now turn to a few general points. 'English Bible' contains a short account of the Revised Version which fairly recognizes its merits and defects, but the concluding paragraph overstates its popularity, if such a term can be used of it at all :—

"The use of the new Version has become general. Familiarity has mitigated the harshness of the Revisers' renderings; scholarship, on the whole, has confirmed their readings. The Version has been publicly read in parish churches both in London and in the country. In Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey it has definitely displaced the older Version. Bishops have acquiesced and congregations approved."

A good many congregations and ministers have not approved, nor can we think, as the bibliography at the end of the article indicates, that the English of the Version has ever been satisfactorily defended. To speak plainly, it represents admirable study in text and exegesis, but inadequate scholarship in English. It might have been added that an attempt to familiarize the language of the New Testament in the common and undignified phraseology of to-day has been made tentatively in 'The Twentieth-Century New Testament,' translated from Westcott and Hort's text. The promoters of this scheme recall a suggestion which might have delivered the Revisers from some errors of taste: that their Version should "circulate experimentally for two or three years," in accordance with German precedent.

'France' is in three (nominally four) sections, of which the statistical and the political are both admirable, while that on literature hardly appears to us to be in sound proportion, ignoring as it does some of those who as stylists are now put into the very front rank by French critics, who are more competent, after all, than we can be to place their men. The statistical portion is from a French hand, and the translation is defective, being full of French idioms. Although this part of the article is, as we have said, excellent on the whole, the naval paragraph is as bad as such attempts almost invariably are. We are told, for example, on a matter of first-class importance—the number of men—that there are enrolled in the *inscription* "219,000, of whom the quarter of Marseilles alone furnished 11,800." The statement as to Marseilles is incomprehensible, for no one will know what the "quarter" means. The figures supplied exclude the 17,000 men obtained by voluntary enlistment now serving in the French fleet at sea; and, on the other hand, the figures of the men on active service subsequently given include a large number of the 219,000 named for the *inscription*. This larger total throws no light upon the number of trained men who are available for reserve. Just as the figures of men are entirely useless, so are those of ships, as there are lumped together in them, in the usual indiscriminate fashion, ships and guns of great value and ships and

guns of none. Mr. J. E. C. Bodley's contribution, entitled 'Political History, 1870-1900,' is, we think, as good as possible. It appears to us to tell exactly what should be told and to tell it in exactly the right way. The account, for example, of the Dreyfus case is a model of accuracy, conciseness, and good taste.

In his account of 'English Literature' (since 1879) Mr. Gosse has performed a difficult business with sobriety and judgment, maintaining, on the whole, an excellent sense of proportion. He points out that 1880 could boast a list of great names which was "extraordinarily splendid," and has only been equalled, perhaps, in 1600 and 1810. Most of these writers were old men, and the ferment of mixed reputations and conflicting forces which has resulted from the absence of their or other pre-eminent authority is the chief feature of our own day besides a carelessness and hurry in writing which are properly censured. The careful revision of a novel nowadays is, it would seem, considered a fact remarkable enough to form part of the preliminary puff concerning it. Something should, we think, have been said as to the effect on literature in general of the large influx of women writers in recent years, especially in the sphere of the novel, where hasty, imitative, and conversational stuff has been recommended to an increasingly indolent public (so far as thinking goes) by fatuous and exaggerated praise.

In theology, and, indeed, in letters generally, the advance of Nonconformist writers seems to us too striking to be passed over in silence. Dr. Martineau might, at any rate, have been mentioned among the theologians.

The insistence on details of little moment which we have previously noticed in some of the briefest articles is exhibited in the few lines on Folkestone, which explain that

"recent erections are Established and Roman Catholic churches, a Congregational hall, a Victoria hospital, a free library and museum, the Harveian Institute (for youths), a 'Home of Rest' for ladies, a convalescent home, a Masonic hall, public baths, the Victoria pier promenade, and a bronze statue of Harvey (1881)."

Are not most of these the commonplaces of a flourishing watering-place?

In the account of 'Association Football' the Corinthians should have been mentioned; also the changes which restrict the distance to which the ball can be thrown into play. For early Rugby football there is now, as we have already said, a better source of information than 'Tom Brown's Schooldays'; while the period and authors of the change from twenty men to fifteen and from three men behind the two half-backs to four should have been noted. Otherwise the article is by good authorities and well written.

'Forest and Forestry' is a good example of a thorough article, not the least interesting part of which concerns the growing industry of "lumbering" and "logging" overseas.

The illustrations are most satisfactory in the technical articles, but on the whole bad, giving an unfortunate impression of cheap work. The picture, for example, of

the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria is extraordinarily unlike and unsatisfactory.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY'S CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS.

The treasurer of the Royal Society has just issued a memorandum concerning the cataloguing of scientific papers from all parts of the world which it has undertaken for the last forty years. The 'Authors' Catalogue,' of names alphabetically arranged, has now been carried down to the end of 1883. More recently an index under subjects was also begun, and is well advanced, although no part of it has as yet been published. The expenses of this work are large. Printing and publication were at first undertaken by H.M. Stationery Office at public expense, but after eight volumes had been published the Treasury in 1889 withdrew their support, Parliament voting 1,000*l.* to assist the Society. Four subsequent volumes were printed and published by the Cambridge University Press, which received subsidies from the Society and the sums arising from sales, which have not been nearly sufficient to meet the whole cost.

An International Council now co-operates with the Society so far as regards cataloguing literature published after the beginning of the present century. The Society have, however, undertaken to act as publishers here too, and to advance the capital required. In order to join the new section and the old, the period 1883-1900 has to be catalogued under 'Authors,' and the subject index for the whole of the past century has to be completed and published. The Council of the Society are engaged on this work, and hope to be ready to send it to press in about five years. They estimate that publication will cost at least 12,000*l.* An appeal for funds to support this great undertaking is now made. Dr. Ludwig Mond, F.R.S., who gave 2,000*l.* in 1892, has added to his previous donation 6,000*l.*, payable in four annual instalments, and Mr. Carnegie 1,000*l.* We hope that others will seize so eminently suitable an occasion for generosity.

SOCIETIES.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 4.—Mr. J. Clarke Hawkshaw, President, in the chair.—The President delivered his annual address, dealing principally with the world's supply of timber.—The medals and prizes awarded by the Council for the past session were afterwards presented.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Nov. 3.—Sir J. Crichton-Browne, Treasurer and V.P., in the chair.—The following were elected Members: Mr. G. H. Baillie, Mr. W. D. Butcher, Mrs. A. R. Cox, Sir Archibald Campbell Lawrie, Mr. G. J. Morrison, and Mr. A. B. Tubini.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Nov. 3.—Mr. P. Griffith, President, in the chair.—A paper was read on 'The Effect of Segregation on the Strength of Steel Rails,' by Mr. T. Andrews.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MON. London Institution, 5.—"The Earth's Beginning," Sir R. B. Hall.
TUES. Surveyors' Institution, 8.—President's Address.
 Asiatic, 4.—"The Story of Donna Julian," Mr. H. Beveridge.
 Geological Institute, 8.—"Some Steps to Imperial Federation," Hon. T. A. Brassey.
 Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—"Electric Tramways," Messrs. C. and R. Hopkinson and E. Talbot.
 Anthropological Institute, 8.—"The Classification and Arrangement of the Ethnology of an Anthropological Museum," Mr. W. H. Holmes.
 The Papuan Gulf," Rev. J. H. Holmes.
WED. Society of Biblical Archaeology, 4.—"The Congress of Orientalists, 1902," Mr. F. Legge; "A Few Remarks upon Hammurabi's Code of Laws," Dr. Finches; "Some Remarks on the Nineteenth Egyptian Dynasty," Prof. Petrie.
 Folklore, 8.—"The Voice of the Stone of Destiny," Mr. E. S. Hartland.
THURS. London Institution, 8.—"Style and Character in Musical Composition," Mr. W. H. Hadow.
 Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—President's Address.
FRI. Astronomical, 6.

Science Gossip.

At the meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh on Monday Lord Maclare, in his opening statement, alluded to the volume of the Ben

Nevis observations, forming vol. xlii. of their *Transactions*, which was the first of the three volumes towards the expense of which the Royal Society of London contributed 500*l.*, being one-half of their estimated cost. Reference was made to the systematic bathymetrical survey of the fresh-water lochs of Scotland, commenced some years ago by Sir John Murray and the late Mr. Fred. Pullar, whose death brought the work to a standstill. Sir John Murray and Mr. Laurence Pullar, father of the deceased, arranged that the work should be completed at their joint expense. During the past seven months these lake surveys have made great progress; 153 lochs have been surveyed, the total number of soundings recorded exceeding 23,400. The largest number of soundings taken in one lake was 1,168 in Loch Maree, but the greatest depth was observed in Loch Morar, 1,009 ft. The results of the work of Sir John Murray and his staff are now being prepared for publication.

The Rev. Thomas Wiltshire, whose death occurred recently, was for some years Professor of Geology and Mineralogy at King's College, London. In many a quiet way Mr. Wiltshire rendered useful service to science. He had been treasurer of the Geological Society, secretary of the Palaeontographical and Ray Societies, and a representative of the Clothworkers' Company on the council of the City and Guilds of London Institute. To geologists Prof. Wiltshire was known specially through his study of the red chalk of Hunstanton.

The annual course of Christmas lectures, specially adapted for young people, at the Royal Institution, will be delivered by Prof. H. S. Hele-Shaw, whose subject is 'Locomotion: on the Earth; through the Water; in the Air.' The first lecture will take place on December 27th, at three, and the remaining ones on December 30th and on January 1st, 3rd, 6th, and 8th.

A NOTE in the *Observatory* for the present month on the meteorology for last summer shows how remarkable it was for cold and sunlessness. The total amount of sunshine recorded at Greenwich for the five months May—September was 812 hours, being 207 less than the average for the years 1897-1901, and 238 less than that recorded in 1901. On only nine days did the thermometer rise above 80°, the highest reading of all being 86°.1 on July 14th. On May 14th the temperature fell at night to 22°.6. The rainfall for the five months amounted to 12 in., which is one inch greater than the average fall during that season.

Two more new small planets were registered on photographic plates taken by Prof. Max Wolf at the Königstuhl Observatory, Heidelberg, on the 24th ult., and another by Herr Dugan at the same place on the 25th.

CIRCUMSTANCES are very unfavourable for observation of the Leonid meteors this year, as the moon will be full on the afternoon of the 15th, the morning after which the stream (though probably not the thickest part of it) will be nearest to the earth. A considerable number of meteors were seen in America last year on the morning of the 15th.

MR. T. W. BACKHOUSE, F.R.A.S., of Sunderland, has recently issued the Second Part (the First appeared in 1891) of the *Publications of the West Hendon House Observatory*. It is a very sumptuous volume, and the matter contained in it is both varied and interesting. In the first section, on the Milky Way, attention is called to several peculiar arrangements of star groups in the galaxy, suggesting physical connexion between the bodies composing them. Then we have series of observations of Barnard's comet of 1886 and Holmes's of 1892; an account of many careful observations of the Gegenschein or counterglow of the Zodiacal Light, of remarkable variable stars, of the orange-coloured stars near γ Geminorum, of the

frequency of auroras and their possible periodicity, &c. The volume is well illustrated, particularly with drawings of the stellar formations in the Milky Way and of cometary structures.

FINE ARTS

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

A Short History of Coins and Currency. By Lord Avebury. (Murray.)—This “little book,” as the author tells us in his preface, is the outcome of an address to the Institute of Bankers and of a lecture at the London Institution. To deal with coinage generally and the history of bank-notes and banking in two lectures limits the area of the work very considerably, and consequently only a slight sketch of two such intricate subjects can be expected. The book, however, as published, is suitable to form one of the series of volumes of the “Home and School Library,” edited by Mr. John Murray. The author has divided his task into two parts. In Part I. he treats of the origin of money and its development among the Chinese, Greeks, Romans, and other civilized nations of ancient times, and devotes a special chapter to the English coinage, which he traces from its earliest issue to recent times. It is interesting to observe that, like many other inventions, the idea of a currency originated with the Chinese. The inconveniences of trading by barter were realized by them at a very early date, so they substituted for it various objects then in common use—viz., hoes, spades, sickles, knives, &c., in bronze. According to Chinese reckoning these date from 2000 B.C.; but modern numismatists do not claim such high antiquity for them, placing their first issue at about 700 B.C. To the end of the knife money, which was the last form of issue of these pieces, was attached a ring, but by degrees the blade of the knife was shortened till only the ring was left; and thus we have the origin of the cash money, a round piece of metal with a square hole in the centre, a form which still survives. The Greeks followed the Chinese, and their first coinage consisted of bean-shaped pieces of electrum and silver without any design, but all of prescribed weights. At first a design—an animal, a bird, a fish, or a human figure—was stamped on one side; then a reverse design was added, and thus we have the scheme of coinage for all subsequent ages. The numerous illustrations supply a good idea of the development of the coinage in the East and in the West, and by degrees we are led up to the beautiful designs of the Greeks of the fourth and third centuries B.C., which have never been surpassed or even equalled. Amongst Mohammedans the delineation of figures was considered a heresy, so the early Arab coins bear only inscriptions, which furnish most valuable historical data, as they usually give not only the name of the ruler by whose order the piece was issued, but also its date and the mint at which it was struck. It is often only from coins that we can trace the rise and fall of the constantly changing Oriental dynasties, which, it might be said, were here to-day and gone to-morrow. In the separate chapter on the coinage of Britain the author traces its origin from the ancient Britons—who took as their model the Greek gold money of Philip II. of Macedon—to the Anglo-Saxon period, when the silver penny was introduced by Offa of Kent, then to the development of the gold currency in the fourteenth century, and onwards to more recent times. There is no other nation in Europe which can display such a fine mediæval coinage as England, both for variety of types and for skilful execution. The noble of Edward III., the first large gold coin struck in England, showing the king standing on a ship on one side and a floreated cross on the other, and the Tudor sovereign, with the full-length figure of the

king enthroned and a large double rose filling the reverse, are coins of which a nation may well be proud, and with which our modern currency contrasts unfavourably in every respect. The designers and engravers of those times were true artists, who understood not only how to produce a piece suitable for currency, but made it at the same time a work of art.

The second part of the work, which treats of the weights of coins and on bank-notes and banking, the writer tells us is new. It is a subject in which he, as head of one of the chief banking houses in this country, should be an adept. Here again, on the subject of bank-notes, we find that the Chinese were to the fore; and their first paper currency appears to date back to about 119 B.C., in the reign of the Emperor Outi, and specimens of Chinese notes, but of not quite so early a date, are still in existence. In the twelfth century A.D. the Mongols used paper or cotton money. In Europe the first bank to issue notes was in Sweden, *circa* 1658. In this country the Bank of England received its charter on July 27th, 1694, the first notes printed from copper-plates appeared in 1725, and the first five-pound note is dated April, 1793. There is an interesting account of Exchequer tallies, and it is curious to note that this primitive custom of keeping accounts at the Royal Exchequer remained in vogue so late as 1826.

This book, so full of information in a compact form, should have an extensive circulation, and as a second edition may be called for we venture to suggest a few corrections. We do not wholly agree with Lord Avebury as to the definition of the term “pu-money,” used for certain early Chinese coins, as “shirt-money.” The word “pu” may mean “cloth,” but as applied to the coinage it has another signification, which is “widespread,” and thus denotes the shape of the coin, which was a debased form of the hoe-money. The Chinese were fond of using fanciful terms for their coinage; thus very thin cash pieces, at one time issued, were called “unsinkable lads,” for if thrown into the water they would float, showing how worthless they were. On p. 9 it is stated that the Chinese have no gold or silver coins; but this is not so, as for some years silver coins of various denominations have been struck not only at Pekin, but also at several provincial mints. On p. 87 the paragraph at the bottom of the page relating to Wood’s halfpence should be transferred to 1. 7 above in order to make sense; and on p. 92 the statement that the Roman gold coinage “became more and more debased, and after the time of Severus Alexander was practically copper with a mere colouring of gold,” is not according to fact. It was the silver coinage which was thus debased, and which consisted of copper washed with silver; the gold money always throughout Roman times preserved its standard, like the English sovereign.

The second part of *La Collection Wallace*, edited by M. Molinier, and published by M. Lévy in Paris and Mr. Davis in London, gives us occasion to notice the large number of fine works of the period of Louis XIV. which are preserved at Hertford House. The popular rage for the works of the eighteenth century has drawn too much attention from the many fine specimens of the art of a larger style produced during the reign of the Grand Monarque. The selection from these reproduced in the present volume, which includes the fine groups restored by M. Molinier to Michel Anguier (pl. 3) and the admirable flat writing-table by André Charles Boulle (pl. 5), is marked by the characteristics which should lead the eye to recognize in the art of the Regency those elements which survive to give dignity and breadth to the work of later days. M. Molinier’s notes on these are admirable, and we are especially grateful to him for his connexion of the Anguier groups with Nos. 297, 298 of the inventory of the royal

properties sold by order of the National Assembly in 1791. He is though, we think, too merciful to the “beau style classique” of the “Secrétaire en bois de rose” (pl. 60) in-crusted with painful squares of Sèvres; and we should have liked a reference, *à propos* of the mermaids’ tails elegantly twisted at the corners of the commode by J. Dubois, to similar tails applied at the corners of the commode attributed to Dubois at the South Kensington Museum. A misprint occurs, we are sorry to say, on pl. 16, where the surname Slodtz occurs twice over as “Hodtz”; but these things will happen to the least ignorant.

WALTER CRANE’S EARLIEST DRAWING.

In the review (in your issue of November 1st) of Mr. Konody’s book on the present victim (who, although nearly buried, is not yet quite dead, and therefore may, presumably, be allowed a word on a matter of fact) the writer “believes” that my “earliest drawing was published in *Once a Week* in 1859.” It is very nice of him to credit me with so early a public appearance, but (despite the opinion in some quarters that I am even yet hardly out of the nursery) the fact remains that in 1859 I was a boy of fourteen in W. J. Linton’s wood-engraver’s office—apprenticed to the then necessary craft of the illustrator—draughtsmanship on wood.

I remember purchasing my first copy of *Once a Week*, which appeared in the summer of that year, but it was not till 1865 that I drew for it at all.

WALTER CRANE.

P.S.—I believe my very first published work was in a little magazine called *Entertaining Things* in 1861, which also contains some early Du Maurier drawings.

EUGÈNE MÜNTZ.

THE death of M. Eugène Müntz, “Vice-Président de l’Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-lettres, Bibliothécaire de l’École des Beaux-Arts, Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur,” &c., is a serious loss to the ranks of those who represent in France art-historical studies of the graver sort. The intense personal passion which he put into everything that he did wore him out before his time, and it was evident to all his friends last winter that the uncontrollable zeal which drove him to incessant effort had sapped his powers. The work by which he first became widely known was his ‘*Vie de Raphaël*,’ the publication of which was followed up by ‘*L’Histoire de l’Art pendant la Renaissance*,’ ‘*Les Précurseurs de la Renaissance*,’ ‘*Léonard da Vinci*,’ and various other volumes of almost equal importance, one of the last being his ‘*Pétrarque*,’ which he prepared with the aid of the Prince d’Essling. M. Müntz, it is sad to say, was fully aware of the decline in his own strength. It was only after much hesitation and much pressing from his friends that he consented to accept the vice-presidency of the Academy of which he was so brilliant a member, a place which would have made him president in 1903. With painful regret he afterwards found himself obliged to resign the prospect of presiding over the assembly of the five academies, in one of which—the Académie des Sciences—he counted a distinguished relative, his brother M. Achille Müntz, and in all of which he had many friends. These inadequate lines are written by one who had the privilege of his loyal friendship for nearly thirty years, and who had, therefore, the means of appreciating that unity of effort which gave dignity to his career. In the words of M. Berger, who now represents the Académie to which M. Müntz belonged, “*La mort lui a donné son congé, mais elle l’a frappé debout et travaillant comme il avait vécu.*”

Fine-Art Gossip.

LAST Wednesday at the Dowdeswell Galleries Mr. Oliver Hall opened an exhibition of oil pictures, and last Thursday the press were invited to view water-colour drawings shown by Messrs. J. P. Mendoza at their St. James's galleries.

YESTERDAY the Holland Fine-Art Gallery opened to the press work of various kinds by Israels and other Dutch artists.

TO-DAY Mr. Rothenstein's recent pastels are on view at Messrs. Carfax & Co.'s gallery, while Messrs. Henry Graves & Co. are showing oil paintings by the late George Bunn and pictures of British game by Mr. Charles Whymper.

TO-DAY is also the private view of works of M. Bauer at Mr. van Wisselingh's Dutch Gallery.

THE eighth annual exhibition of pictures of the English School on behalf of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution will open to the press next Tuesday at Messrs. Agnew & Sons, Old Bond Street Galleries.

NEXT Wednesday the Society of Portrait Painters begin their season at the New Gallery.

It is understood that Sir George Reid will be asked to reconsider his resignation of the office of President of the Scottish Academy. If he declines re-election the general opinion is that Mr. James Guthrie will be chosen as his successor, though the names of Mr. Lorimer and Mr. Gibb are also mentioned. Some years ago Mr. Guthrie took up his residence in London, but he has more recently been living in Glasgow.

THE Salon d'Automne, to which we have frequently referred in this column, will not be publicly inaugurated until November next year. Neither the Grand Palais nor the Petit Palais is free this season.

ON November 15th Mr. Montague Fordham will hold a private view at 9, Maddox Street of metal work designed and executed by Messrs. R. L. B. Rathbone & Co., and of gold and silver point drawings by Mr. A. Fahey.

The painter Francesco Vinea, whose death is reported from Florence in his fifty-seventh year, was esteemed highly both in his own country and abroad. He was a disciple of Meissonier.

THE archeologist Prof. Achille Gennarelli, whose death in his eighty-third year is announced from Florence, was also a political writer of note.

THE death is further announced of M. Jules Richomme, who was born in Paris in 1818. He was the son of a well-known engraver, Joseph Théodore Richomme. He studied under Drolling, and first exhibited at the Salon in 1833. For a long series of years he was a constant exhibitor of portraits and of pictures inspired by Biblical subjects. To the Salon of 1902 he sent two works, 'L'Attente' and 'Jeune Femme regardant des Estampes.' One of his pictures, 'Saint Pierre d'Alcantara guérissant un Enfant Malade,' is in the Luxembourg; and another, 'La Décollation de Saint Jean Baptiste,' is at Besançon. He assisted in the artistic decoration of several French churches.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Popular Concert. Richter Concert. Dr. Saint-Saëns's Concert.

THE first of the Popular Concerts under the direction of Prof. Johann Kruse took place on Saturday afternoon last. For several seasons little or no notice has been taken of the last five quartets of Beethoven, so that the one in c sharp minor which stood at the head of the programme was particularly welcome. In speaking of the master's Choral Symphony Wagner, in

'The Art-Work of the Future,' says: "Beyond it no forward step is possible; for upon it the perfect Art-work of the Future alone can follow, the *universal Drama* to which Beethoven has forged for us the key." The five quartets in question, however, were all written later than the Ninth Symphony, and are therefore of special importance in studying the development of the master's genius. They have never fallen into utter oblivion, yet the general public cannot be said to be so familiar with any one of them as it is with the Ninth Symphony. The rendering of the quartet by Messrs. Kruse, H. Inwards, A. E. Féris, and H. Walenn was in many respects praiseworthy. It displayed thought and intelligence and good *ensemble*; yet it lacked intensity, especially in the opening and closing movements. The performers after a time will no doubt feel more at their ease. The only other concerted work was Tschaikowsky's characteristic Pianoforte Trio in a minor. Madame Carreño, the pianist of the afternoon, played with her usual skill, but the tone of the instrument frequently overpowered that of the strings. The composer has certainly given to the pianist a very prominent part; anyhow, the lid of the pianoforte should have been shut. Miss Margarethe Petersen, who appeared in place of Herr Anton van Rooy, sang songs by Brahms, Hugo Wolf, &c., in an artistic though somewhat exaggerated style.

The thirty-ninth and "last" series of Richter Concerts commenced on Monday evening at St. James's Hall. The eminent conductor is still in the prime of life, and, as the performances on this occasion showed, his hand has not lost its cunning; it is, therefore, to be hoped that he does not intend to sever his connexion with London. It was Richter who first revealed to us the full glory of the Beethoven symphonies, and it was he who taught us to understand and appreciate Wagner, both in the concert-room and on the stage. His repertory of late years has, it is true, been somewhat limited; and if, as we hope, he returns to us this important matter deserves his best consideration. Monday's programme included favourite Wagner excerpts and Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony. The Love Duet from the first act of 'Die Walküre' was sung by Miss Agnes Nicholls and Mr. Ben Davies. The former, though not as yet capable of interpreting the Sieglinde music with all the requisite force and fervour, deserves high commendation. Mr. Davies, whose voice has lately gained in fulness, sang with dramatic effect. The Prelude and the closing scene from 'Tristan' were given. A note in the programme book, with the familiar signature "C. A. B.," called attention to the fact that the Vorspiel is really the 'Liebestod,' and the close the 'Verklärung.' Thus they were announced by Wagner himself on the programme of the sixth concert of the Wagner Festival at the Albert Hall in 1877; and even before that, as mentioned in a recent number of the *Bayreuther Blätter* (No. 141), on the programme of a concert conducted by Wagner at Vienna in 1863. "C. A. B." thinks the late Dr. Hueffer was responsible for the usual incorrect version. Strange indeed does it seem that the correction should come so late, and that even

Dr. Richter should never have noticed the mistake. The performance of the 'Pastoral' was admirable.

Dr. Camille Saint-Saëns gave a concert of his own compositions at St. James's Hall on Wednesday evening. Among living French composers he holds a distinguished place, and, whatever the degree of inspiration in one or other of his works, he writes with consummate skill, and for the most part with great charm, as, for instance, in the graceful Pianoforte Trio in F, Op. 18, with which the programme opened. The work was well played, and admirable restraint was shown by the composer at the pianoforte; the balance of tone was excellent. The programme concluded with the well-known Pianoforte Quartet in B flat, Op. 41. Dr. Saint-Saëns played a group of short solos, and for an encore a transcription, evidently his own, from the Andante from Haydn's 'Surprise' Symphony, which showed the hand of a composer-pianist, not that of a mere virtuoso. Madame Kirkby Lunn sang 'Rêverie,' 'La Cloche,' 'Le Sommeil des Fleurs,' and 'L'Attente,' of which the second and fourth were the best rendered; for an encore she gave 'Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix,' from 'Samson et Dalila.' In the concerted music Dr. Saint-Saëns's associates were Messrs. Mossel, Ketelbey, and Hock. The first-named played the Concertstück in A, Op. 20, for violin, with good technique, but moderate charm.

Musical Gossip.

THE thirty-seventh season of London Ballad Concerts was inaugurated at Queen's Hall last Saturday afternoon. The programme included five new songs. Dr. Ernest Walker's bright and tuneful setting of Herrick's 'Corinna's going a Maying,' Mr. Albert Mallinson's melodious song 'What is a Home?' and Mrs. Alicia Needham's expressive 'In my Dreams' were sung respectively by Mr. Plunkett Greene, Miss Ada Crossley, and Mr. Whitworth Mitton. Miss Edna Thornton introduced a pretty ballad by Mr. George Aitken, called 'Long Ago,' and Miss Evangeline Florence sang in her daintiest manner a light and refined setting by Mr. Herbert Parsons of Tennyson's 'What does little birdie say?' Madame Clara Butt and other popular artists appeared.

A NEW Pianoforte Sonata, No. 3, in D minor, by Mr. Carlo Albanesi, was introduced by Mr. G. F. H. Moore at his recital at Steinway Hall. The work is in four movements, of which the first, marked "Allegro giusto," displays considerable energy and animation, the first theme being of fairly strong character. The Scherzo is sufficiently brisk and shows refined thought, while the Andante cantabile is not lacking in grace and sentiment. Though fluently written, the Finale is disappointing, as it is deficient in body and rather dry. Mr. Moore, who is an able pianist, interpreted the work with skill and intelligence, and also played Bach's third 'English' Suite in a clear and taking manner.

MR. ERNEST WINDUST gave a violin recital yesterday week. He is a skilful executant, and plays with neatness and facility. In Goldmark's Suite in E the new violinist was more at home than when engaged in interpreting works demanding stronger emotional expression. Miss Windust gave an able rendering of the piano-forte part of the Suite.

A NEW Pianoforte Trio in B minor, by Mr. Algernon Ashton, was included in the programme of an interesting concert given last Saturday at the small Queen's Hall. Of the four movements the third, Intermezzo, is specially

melodious and pleasing. The work was ably interpreted by Mr. E. H. Thorne, Mr. Hubert Hunt, and Miss Gertrude Almond.

The orchestral concert at the Crystal Palace on Saturday afternoon was under the direction of Dr. Frederic Cowen. The programme included familiar works, with the exception of the last item, Mr. Arthur Hervey's 'On the March,' the second of the two Tone Pictures produced, and with great and well-deserved success, at the recent Cardiff Festival. It was also well received at the Palace. It was, however, a pity not to play both: the quiet of the one sets off the vigour of the other. Both, by the way, will be performed under Dr. Cowen's direction at Glasgow on December 20th.

MISS MARIE BERG, from Berlin, gave a vocal recital at the Bechstein Hall on October 31st. Her programme was attractive and varied. The greater portion was devoted to German composers, but it also included songs by Purcell, Buonocini, Grieg, Bizet, and Massenet. Miss Berg has a good voice and sings with artistic taste. She appeared nervous at first, but gradually improved.

DR. ELGAR conducted a performance of his 'Coronation Ode' at Queen's Hall yesterday week, and the work will be repeated to-morrow afternoon in the same hall.

We call attention to the special performance of Handel's 'Messiah,' under the direction of Prof. Prout, at the Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening next. To restore approximately the balance between chorus and orchestra customary in Handel's time the oratorio will be given by a select choir of about one hundred voices and an orchestra of about sixty-five. In connexion with this performance Messrs. Novello have issued a new vocal score of the oratorio, edited by Prof. Prout, which agrees with the new edition of the full score about to be published.

At Mr. Charles Fry and Miss Olive Kennett's costume recital performance of Shakespeare's 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' at the Royalty Theatre, next Saturday, incidental music will be given from Purcell's 'Fairy Queen,' the libretto of which is anonymously adapted from Shakespeare's play.

PROF. JOHANN KRUSE announces an orchestral concert at St. James's Hall on Friday, November 28th. The programme will be devoted entirely to the works of Beethoven, and Herr Felix von Weingartner will come expressly from Munich to conduct.

ERARD POPULAR CONCERTS are announced to be given at the Albert Hall on Saturday evenings, November 15th and 22nd and December 6th, 13th, and 20th, also one on Saturday afternoon, November 29th. They will be under the management of Mr. L. G. Sharpe.

MR. ROBERT NEWMAN'S Complimentary Concert will take place this evening, the last night of the present series of Promenade Concerts. Mr. Arthur W. Payne—who during Mr. Henry J. Wood's indisposition has proved himself a worthy deputy—will conduct.

JAN BLOCKX's opera 'De Bruid der Zee' ('The Bride of the Sea'), which was produced with great success at the Flemish Theatre, Antwerp, on November 30th last, has just been performed at the Monnaie, Brussels, with equal success. In an article signed Lucien Solvay in *Le Ménestrel* the writer describes the libretto by M. de Tièvre as well reflecting the spirit and tendency of Flemish dramatic art. Of the music he speaks in very high terms.

'DAS RHEINGOLD,' which has not yet been given on the stage at Paris, was performed there at a recent Chevillard concert. It attracted an immense audience, and was received with the utmost favour.

PEROSI is seeking after fame in a new direction. A sacred opera, entitled 'Leo the Great,' has been privately performed at Rome.

HERR GENERALMUSIKDIREKTOR FRITZ STEINBACH, of Meiningen, has been appointed director of the Conservatorium and conductor of the Gürzenich concerts at Cologne in succession to the late Dr. Wüllner.

RICHARD STRAUSS's 'Feuersnot,' produced at Dresden November 21st, 1901, was performed for the first time at Berlin on October 28th, and, according to the *Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung*, achieved a brilliant success, composer, librettist (Herr von Wolzogen), and the interpreters being recalled many times. Strauss is the most prominent of living German composers, and the opposition to him in many quarters reminds one of the hostility shown towards Wagner half a century ago. But Strauss will have fairer play; he, at any rate, does not stir up anger by the writing of letters and essays.

We read in *Le Ménestrel* of October 26th that the Symphony Concerts under the conductorship of M. Safonov, director of the Conservatoire, will commence at Moscow in November; in all there will be twenty—ten given by the Conservatoire and ten by the Philharmonic Society. The programmes will include new symphonies by Messrs. Scriabine and Glier, and a cantata (which gained a gold medal) by M. Nicolaïev. Richard Strauss's 'Tod und Verklärung' will be performed there for the first time. The orchestra will consist of 120 performers.

We read in the last number of *Le Ménestrel* that the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde at Vienna has come into possession of an interesting document, a paper on which Mendelssohn, in 1840, wrote out roughly an announcement of an organ recital which he was to give on August 6th of that year in St. Thomas's Church, Leipzig, and of which the proceeds were to be devoted to a monument in memory of Bach, to be placed near the St. Thomas's School where the great cantor lived and taught. This announcement was to be printed, with a list of subscribers, and circulated. Mendelssohn hopes that Leipzig will show proper interest in the scheme, since "up to the present no outward sign perpetuates the remembrance of the greatest artist which Leipzig ever possessed." The concert took place, but the amount raised was so small that the monument was not inaugurated until April 23rd, 1843. It is interesting to note that Schumann was not only among the original subscribers but also that he contributed the largest sum—viz., eleven thalers. In a letter to his mother, dated August 10th, 1840, Mendelssohn refers to the recital. "I gave it," he says, "solissimo, and played nine pieces, and at the close a free fantasia." He also mentions the sum—300.—which remained after expenses had been paid.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Concert Society, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
	Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Paderewski's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
TUES.	Richter Concert, 8.30, St. James's Hall.
WED.	Miss Iona Robertson's Recital, 8, Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Mr. Gordon Tanner's Violin Recital, 8, Bechstein Hall.
FRI.	Miss Finner and Mr. H. Iles's Concert, 8.15, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	London Ballad Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
	Saturday Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
	Erard Popular Concert, 3.30.
	Erard Popular Concert, 8, Albert Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

COURT.—Afternoon Performance: 'Eleanor,' a Play in Four Acts. By Mrs. Humphry Ward.

DUKE OF YORK'S.—'The Admirable Crichton,' a Fantasy in Four Acts. By J. M. Barrie.

In extracting from her novel of 'Eleanor' a drama intended for presentation Mrs. Humphry Ward would have done well to associate with herself some one with an elementary knowledge of stage requirements. Difficult enough under the most favourable conditions is the task of fitting for "a two hours' traffic of the stage" the

characters constituting what should be to some extent a microcosm. In the case of a writer whose art is specially delicate, sensitive, and logical the task of the adapter becomes increasingly arduous. It does not follow even in the case of collaboration that the result would be a success. It is hard for the creator to submit her cherished imaginings to the judgment of the mechanic, and it is conceivable that Mrs. Ward would have been little amenable to her associate, and would have held his suggestions as futile and inept, as she now presumably holds the remonstrances of her critics. Like other people, she must "dree her weird." It is, however, painful to have to state, in the case of a writer of courage and distinction, that she has broken down at the outset; fallen, it may be said, at the first fence. If there is one thing certain with the budding dramatist it is that he will have to cut out of his work everything he most affects. Disregarding, as is but natural, this unpalatable necessity, Mrs. Ward has ignored—as is also natural—the radical difference between that which is spoken and that which is described. As a result, her work in its stage shape is wearisome. This is a hard saying, but it is the plain truth. Knowing and esteeming the novel, we went to the performance, it can scarcely be said with pleasurable anticipations, but at least with a wish to be pleased. We would not readily have missed being present. At the close the only feeling left was depression. The last act is simply interminable. This might possibly be remedied by excisions. Such must, however, be relentless. What is more hopeless is the maltreatment of the characters Mrs. Ward has invented. Father Benecke, in the novel the most touching, human, and sympathetic of all, is in the play simply didactic. In watching the plotted and attempted murder of Lucy Foster we felt it to be at once meaningless, melodramatic, and commonplace, and recognized that, although it brought with it the only thrill we experienced, the play would have been better without it. That Mrs. Ward's men proved repulsive to masculine ideas we scarcely regarded as a fault; women's men are rarely otherwise, and some of Scott's men are almost as priggish as Edward Manisty. It is, however, destructive of sympathy to find two good women contending for so sorry a prize. It is difficult to say more. We have no wish to banish from the stage a thoughtful, scholarly, and disciplined talent such as that of Mrs. Ward. Nothing that she has done shows, however, dramatic aptitude, and if any outsider had treated her work as she has herself treated it she would have had just cause of complaint. She may, like "auld Nickieben" in Burns's large-hearted lyric, "still hae a stake," but her first attempt is unfortunate. She was well served by her exponents, and the four principal female parts were finely played. The solitary gleam of brightness was the performance of Miss Rosina Filippi.

Thanks to Mr. Gilbert, Mr. George Bernard Shaw, Capt. Marshall, and now last of all to Mr. Barrie, fantasy has taken in public estimation the place once occupied by burlesque. This substitution involves, it is needless to say, an immense gain to

our stage. Only in the hands of a master craftsman, such as was in his time Planché or Francis Talfourd, was burlesque tolerable, while to fantasy we owe a series of masterpieces, among which we may include 'As You Like It.' Mr. Barrie's 'Admirable Crichton' is an excellent specimen of its class. A little over-elaboration and some slowness of action from which it suffers will disappear when it is played more closely, and a vein of satire which it exhibits adds to its attractions. Its central figure is to some extent mock-heroic. A model butler in an aristocratic house, who respects all the proprieties amidst which he has dwelt, is hurt at the familiarities which the earl, his master—a student, presumably, of Jean Jacques Rousseau—permits himself with his servants, and, among the three fair daughters of his master's house, most approves that one who treats him "de haut en bas." A curious chance befalls the earl and a portion of his household. In the course of a cruise in Southern seas the yacht containing him, his daughters, and two or three of his friends and dependants is wrecked upon an uninhabited, but happily fertile island, out of the ordinary course of commerce, where there is little prospect of a rescue. For two years the party are retained prisoners. Strong, resourceful, ingenious, inventive, the ex-butler takes the lead in all that is done. By general consent he is elected to the governorship of the island, and the earl, his daughters, and the other denizens become the mere executants of his orders. The girls all fall in love with him, and Lady Mary, the proudest and most intellectual of them all, though provided at home with a "young lord lover" whom she never expects to rejoin, consents, with her father's approval, to be his bride so soon as she can obtain a skirt in which to be married. There is a clergyman in the party, but as no dresses have been saved from the wreck the females are all dressed in the skins of the animals they have slain. In dreaming of a marriage such as this Crichton is scarcely false to his former self. He feels in himself the instincts of kingship, and doubts not that in some previous existence he was a monarch—let us say Assurbanipal—and that Lady Mary was a captive of his spear or a priestess at his shrine. When, however, an English frigate visits the island, and all are carried off, the dreams fade; and when the party finds itself at home Lady Mary rejoins her aristocratic suitor, and Crichton marries a domestic on whom his eye had previously fallen, and who has always regarded him with devotion. With her he opens a public-house in the Harrow Road. It is easy to regard all this as frivolous. When backed up by wit and humour, such as are here displayed, and by happy satire of social conventions it is delightful. Mr. Kemble as the earl, Mr. H. B. Irving as the butler, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Lady Mary act admirably; and as they are well supported by Mr. G. Du Maurier and other actors, the whole proves thoroughly diverting and effective.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE attempt to secure the Chamberlain's licence for Mr. Laurence Housman's play on the Nativity has failed, as it was bound to fail. Plays founded on Scripture are, as Mr. Redford

asserts, ineligible for licence in England, and must remain so while public conviction and sentiment remain what they are. How far it is expedient to evade by a private performance, such as is to be given, the intention of the law is doubtful.

THE part in 'There's Many a Slip' played at the Haymarket by Mr. H. B. Irving, now appearing in 'The Admirable Crichton,' is taken by Mr. C. W. Somerset.

An adaptation of 'La Source' of M. Édouard Pailleron by Mr. J. T. Grein and Henry Horton is likely to be produced before the close of the month at an afternoon representation, with Mr. Charles Cartwright and Miss Ellen O'Malley in the principal parts. 'La Source' was given at the Comédie Française on November 18th, 1887.

'LA CHATELAINE,' by M. Alfred Capus, was given on the 25th ult. with conspicuous success at the Renaissance Theatre, the principal parts being sustained by Madame Jane Hading, M. Guitry, and M. Tarride. It is satisfactory to know that this piece will be included in the repertory of Madame Jane Hading when next spring she revisits the Coronet Theatre.

A DRAMATIC rendering of Mr. Tom Gallon's 'Tatterley' has been prepared by the author, and is to be presented early in the new year at the Coronet Theatre.

SOME opposition to the production in Dublin of 'The Eternal City' is said to be likely. Mr. Tree has accordingly determined to "face the music," and, in addition to being present at the first performance of the drama by a travelling company, contemplates, if possible, himself enacting the Pope.

IN consequence of wholesale changes on which the County Council insists the Princess's Theatre closes this evening, and 'The Fatal Wedding,' the success of which has been remarkable, is now homeless. Whether the house will find a management prepared to encounter the inevitable expenses, or whether it will drop out of the list of theatres, seems doubtful.

WHILE preparations are being made for the forthcoming production of 'Lyre and Lancet' the Royalty Theatre has been closed.

MR. WILLARD, and not Mr. and Mrs. Kendall as previously announced, is, it is said, to be the tenant of the St. James's Theatre next autumn. For his opening on September 1st he has chosen 'The Cardinal.' He counts also on producing Mr. Stephen Phillips's drama founded on David and Bathsheba, 'Tom Pinch,' a play extracted from 'Martin Chuzzlewit,' and some Shakespeare pieces, first among which comes 'The Merchant of Venice.' We are promised a Portia new to our stage.

AN adaptation of Mark Twain's 'Huckleberry Finn' is to be produced shortly in America.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has appeared under his own management at the Herald Square Theatre, New York, in 'The Only Way.'

DR. GEORG JACOB, Professor of Oriental Languages at the University of Erlangen, has compiled, but not as yet published, a new and fuller edition of his 'Bibliography of the Shadow-Theatre and Shadow-Plays,' a subject in which Goethe took a warm interest. For some years past Prof. Jacob has made exhaustive researches into the history of the much-neglected Turkish and Arabic theatrical literature from the thirteenth century to modern times, upon which he has published a series of monographs, including his paper of last year at the Strassburg Philological Congress upon the wandering of the shadow-theatre from the East to the West. His latest contribution to the subject, 'Text-proben aus dem Escorial-Codex des Muhammed über Dāniāl,' appeared this year.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—D. W. F.—C. S.—G. N.—R. S.—W. R. P.—A. H.—received.
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